KEEP STRONG

- Resistance In Mexico
- Two More Black Lung Victims Die

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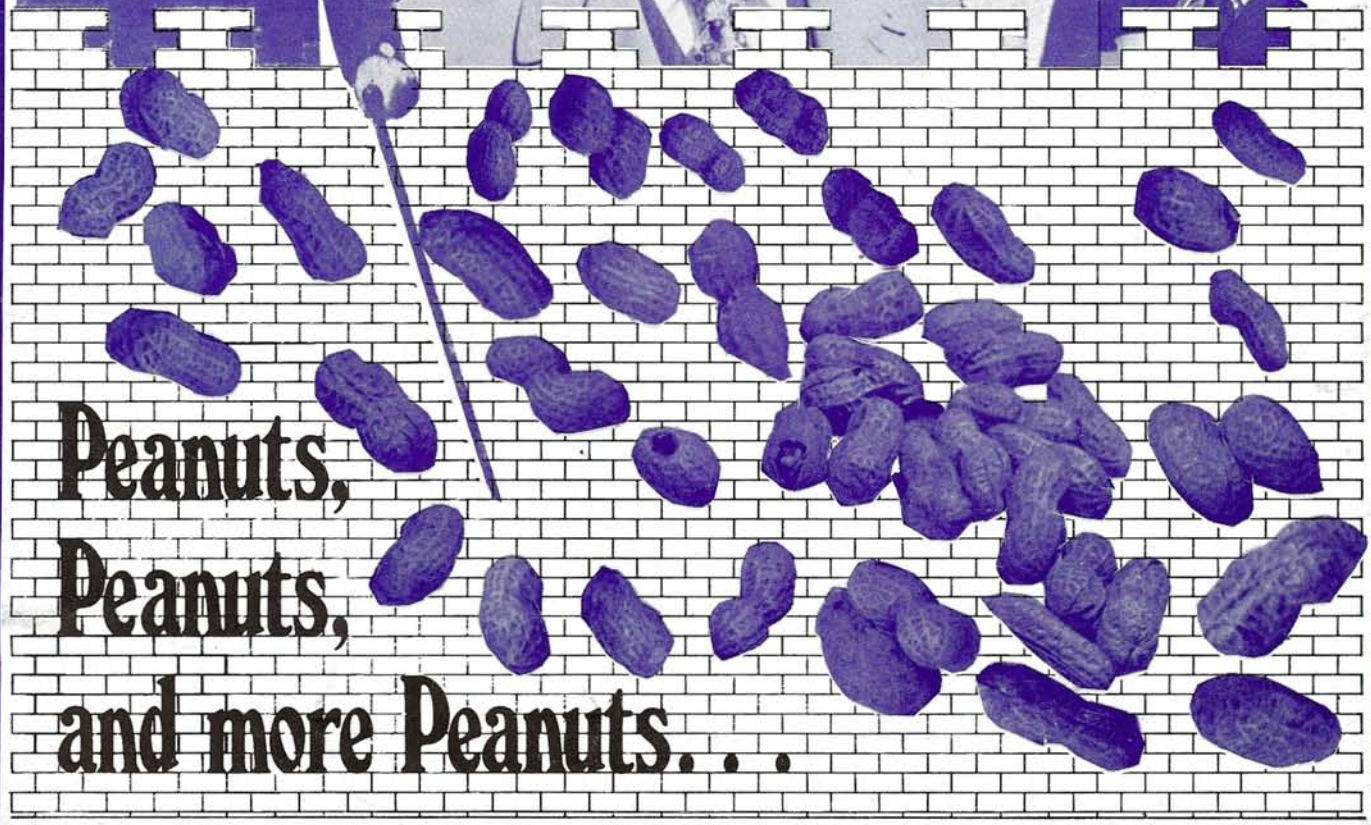

Peanuts, Peanuts, and more Peanuts...

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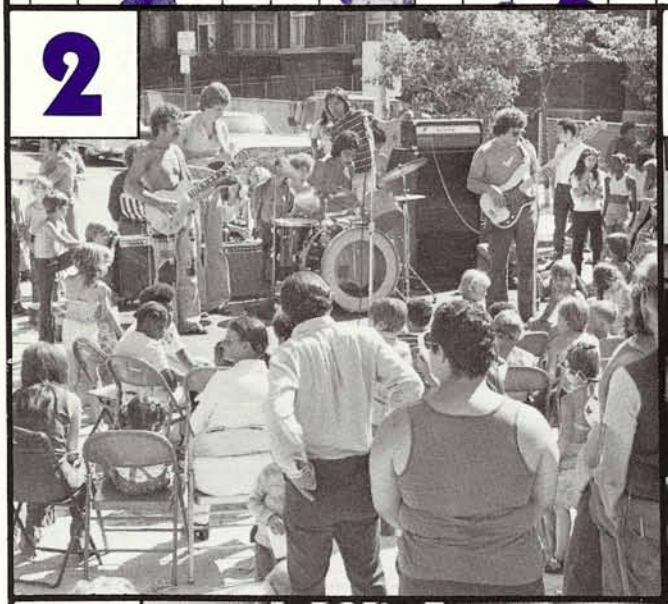

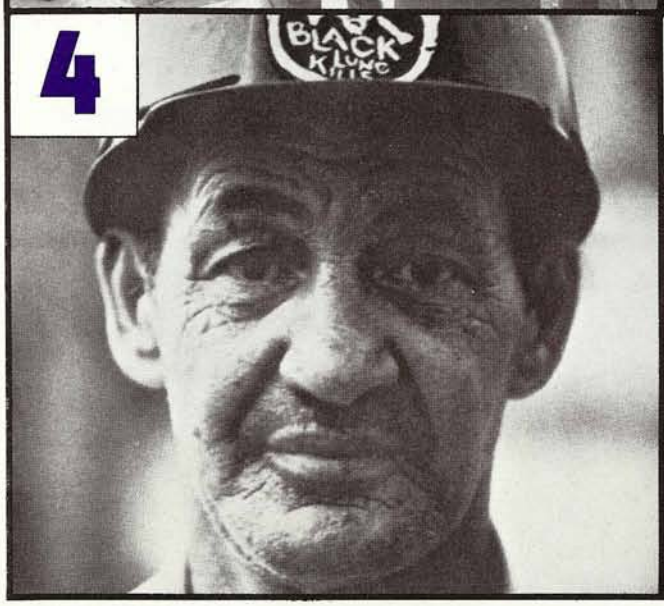

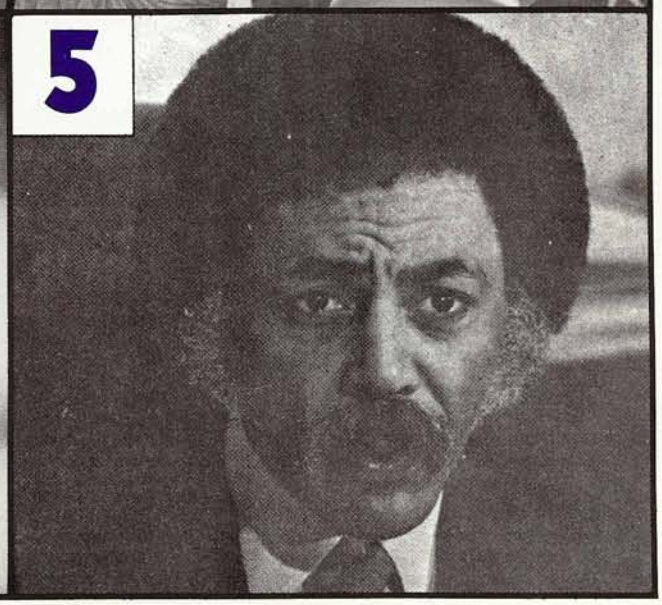

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5. Congressman Ron Dellums courageously challenges the Democratic Convention (page 28) and supports the independence of Puerto Rico in Congress, page 38.

EDITORIAL

We Can't Live On Peanuts

What will happen if Jimmy Carter and the democrats are elected? If they are, we can stop worrying about Ford or Reagan. We can really forget about Nixon. Maybe we can even stop worrying about Kissinger. But if we don't start worrying about Carter when he is elected, we are in for some serious trouble.

Most of us in the cities have been living with the "new democrats" for some time. A Carter victory in November is a victory for Richard J. Daley of Chicago, Beame of New York, Maier of Milwaukee and Rizzo of Philadelphia. These long-time enemies of our survival will bring no surprises and no relief.

Carter and the democrats promise more money for the cities; that means more money for Daley, Maier, Rizzo and Beame to put into their urban renewal program, driving poor people from the city. It means more money for their expressways bringing suburbanites into the city to take the few jobs that remain. We know how the democrats spend money because we have been living under the heel of it for a long time.

Carter and the democrats prQmise more jobs; that means a few thousand more temporary jobs for political machines. It does not mean giving poor and oppressed people the opportunity for decent jobs and job security.

In terms of sending men to fight wars to protect U.S. business interests around the world, fighting against freedom loving people like the Vietnamese, the Zimbabweans or the people of Puerto Rico, Carter is no different than Nixon was. If he can get us to go, he will send us.

But the biggest danger that Jimmy Carter represents is from ourselves. If we come to believe that we were represented at the Democratic Convention, or that Jimmy Carter is anything different than the figurehead of a degenerate clique of men like Daley and Rizzo, then we may be convinced to stop building our own organizations and fighting our own fights. We may "lay our burden down" and let Jimmy Carter pick it up, in which case Carter will give our burden to Daley and his fellow thugs, who will quickly drop it on our heads.

Whether we votefor Carter, or don't vote at all, we should be in the streets in November, organizingfor our own freedom and our own survival. We can not live on his peanuts. D

on Iftfllfff

"DO YOU THINK IT WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR DAY TO DAY STRUGGLE TO SURVIVE IF JIMMY CARTER, GERALD FORD OR RONALD REAGAN ARE ELECTED?"

IN CHICAGO

Marie Robinette
N. Magnolia

"No, 1don't think it will make any difference. They don't care about us. 1worked on Cha Cha's campaign because he fought for us. But the presidential people, they don't care about the people and won't do anything for us."

Frank Miller
N. Winthrop

"I couldn't say that it would make a difference, really. I couldn't see a difference . . ."

Eva Kushner
N. Dover

"I don't think it's going to make any difference because it's all the same whoever is in office. It's all the same, you know."

Jim Panlikowski
W. Carmen

"I don't vote ... There's nobody good enough to vote for. 1haven't voted yet, and 1 never will until somebody good comes along."

Kendal Jones
N. Magnolia

". don't think so.• judge people by what they do and not what they say, and as of now • don't think either Carter or the Republican will do anything for my life."

Barbara Hurley
N. Kenmore

"... As far as who goes into office. don't think the people have a choice. But, sure it affects you. Because every decision he does - well, it's based on the government couldn't survive if it was for the people; because a government can only survive for itself. If it happens to do you good, that's hip but as a rule it can't be for the people and for itself. It couldn't survive. So, yeah, it makes a difference because one has one policy and one has another and it's all big money. But the differences between the candidates now aren't that great. • don't think so. Actually on the coming elections I don't think it's going to change my life radically regardless of who gets in because the policies. think are going to remain the same."

Betty Brushaber
N. Sheridan

"The way poverty is, the way prices are, with things just going higher and higher, no matter who gets in they want power. They don't care what the people want."

IN MILWAUKEE

Karen Schneider
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

"No, because things will never change anyway. They are basically all the same. Their policies are the same, and the government will stay the same."

Virginia Graefe
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

"I think they are all a bunch of crooks, and it wouldn't make any difference."

Donna Hernet
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

". don't think it would make any difference really because they are all about the same. They all say the same things but they don't do it. So what's the difference who gets it really?"

Rick Sullivan
W. Greenfield
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

"No, it wouldn't make any difference to me reaily because money is getting tighter and tighter, and people are just staying where they are at."

WELFARE RIGHTS

Appeal Process - *The State Judges Itself*

The appeal process within the Department of Public Aid is a long OI).centangled in rules and regulations. Critics of the system say it is an example of the "state judging itself." Pointing to the fact that all hearing officers are employees of the state, welfare advocates around the city have called for the establishment of community-based boards to replace the present system.

An appeal within the Department of Public Aid is a procedure very similar to' criminal or civil law. If a recipient is turned down for a certain benefit or in some way feels abused by a particular action or inaction of the department, he/she has the right to file an appeal..

Within the past few months, certain changes have taken place within that process, which although subtle have had a great affect upon the appeal system, according to observers. Whereas in the past the hearing officer would request that the state make its presentation first, it is now the recipient who must make the first presentation, shifting the burden of proof from the state back to the individual.. Cross examination of the caseworker's testimony is no longer possible, and a climate of fear and intimidation is created.

Sandra Dean lives at 4244 N. Kenmore. For the past five months both Sandra and her family have struggled with the Department of Public Aid to ensure the continuation of benefits which are rightfully hers. In February of this year, Ms. Dean moved from Humboldt Park to Uptown and settled on the 4600 block of N. Kenmore. By law her case should have been transferred to the Uptown office on Lawrence. However, when March came Ms. Dean received only her food stamp and medical eligibility cards, with no check. Distraught, Sandra called the Humboldt office to find out what had happened. Ms. Garcia, her old caseworker, told her that her check had been sent to her previous address and must have been lost. She told Ms. Dean tp come in and file a lost check form.

Although the form was filed, no check came. In

Sandra Dean and her famliy: victims of the state trying Itself.

late March a fire at the building she was living in forced Ms. Dean to relocate. This time she rented an apartment in the building her parents manage at 4244 N. Kenmore. She was now almost without money. Her application for a rent voucher was denied.

April came and still no check. Forms were filled out once more. Then May and June passed and the process was completed twice more, still without results. The situation' was now desperate. Four months had elapsed since the receipt of her last check, and Sandra was now completely without money. Rent could not be paid, her health had begun to suffer because of lack of money to buy adequate food, and the response from the Humboldt office was the never-ending, "It must have been lost; come in and file the forms."

But Sandra and her parents had begun to investigate. They talked to people at her old building and found that no checks had ever arrived at that address. Wading through the public aid bureaucracy they found all her files had been "lost" by the district office.

Armed with this information, they went to the Uptown Welfare Defense Committee and with

the help of an advocate filed an appeal.. A hearing was scheduled for June 28 to decide the matter. However, at the hearing the state asked for and received a continuance until July 12. "The continuance is a perfect example of the state trying itself," says Kim Nash, coordinator of the Committee." "There was no reason for it; the department had had more than enough time to prepare, and the continuance should have been denied."

Two days before the hearing was to have taken place, Ms. Dean was called into the Humboldt office. Mr. Karlton, the director of the office, told her she had been right all along and that a check would be issued from Springfield on July 26 covering the past five months. "He told us they would send the check but would not transfer the case to the Uptown office because of the fear of being shown wrong," said David Goodman, her stepfather; "That to me is very political.."

Although Ms. Dean received the check from Springfield her troubles are far from over. Because the Humboldt office has refused to transfer her records she must now reapply at the Uptown office. This is another lengthy process ~ing what is known as "verification."

"It could be another month before Sandra gets a check," according to Ms. Nash. "The papers and documents required to 'verify your existence' are quite extensive. I cannot understand how a system so obviously unjust can be allowed to continue." O

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment Workers Strike

Vowing to "fight 'til victory," over 300 striking w{)rkers from the state unemployment offices have entered their fourth week of picketing as *KEEP STRONG* goes to press. The strike, which affects all offices in Cook County, was called to protest the layoffs of 123 workers.

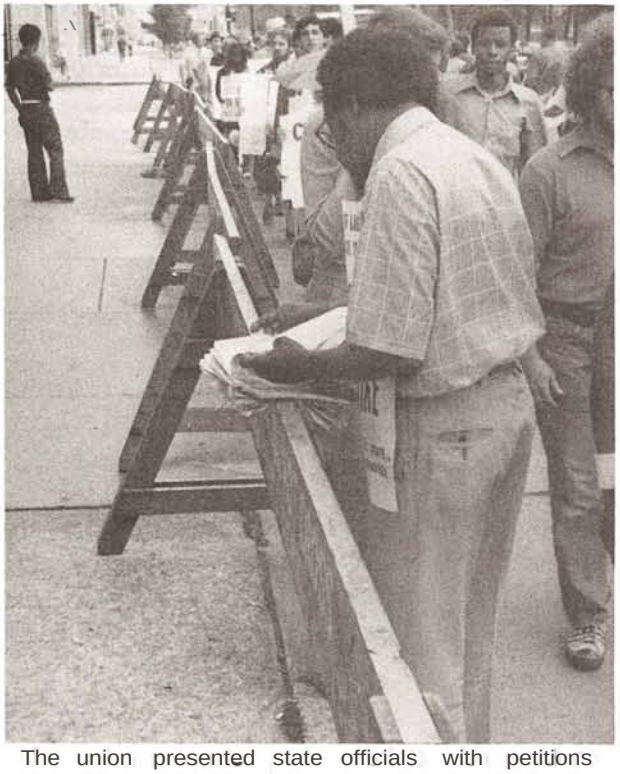
According to unemployment bureau spokesperson Julie Mayer, the layoffs were mandated by the federal government. It was either that or no funding," said Ms. Mayer. "The people who were laid off do not affect the issuing of checks. That's all done by computer now." The computer is a multimillion dollar system supposedly designed to issue checks faster and eliminate "unnecessary" personnel..

However, according to the union, the computer error rate has now reached an astounding 54%. Countless claims have been erased by the system which will not be fully operational for several months. Union members point out that it takes people to correct these errors. "It's ridiculous to say less employees are needed. Just go over one street to Wabash any morning and look for yourself."

Every morning upwards of 200 people wait in line at 900 S. Wabash to find out where their checks are or to apply for the first time. "This is my fourth time down here. I'm tired of being run around. I have a family to feed," said one man who had been waiting all morning.

In addition, the union has charged that in carrying out the layoffs, the state did not follow seniority resulting in the overwhelming majority of those laid off being women and Black people. The agency is continuing to hire paid consultants at '$40 an hour to improve efficiency.

On Tuesday, July 27, the state fired all 300 strikers. The next morning representatives from the union presented state officials with petitions



The union presented state officials with petitions signed by over 5,000 people waiting to get their checks.

signed by over 5000 people waiting to get their checks. The petitions demanded reinstatement of the laid off workers and no reprisals against the strikers. State officials accepted the petitions but refused to comment on the demands.

Unemployment in the inner city is still a grave problem. Checks come late or not at all, and the endless waiting in line continues. The state of Illinois is still being investigated for having one of the most cumbersome and least effective employment services in the country. Surely, noted one observer, "If the state was really concerned with serving the unemployed quickly and effectively they would find a way to do so."O

TENANTS' RIGHTS

Tenants Union Club Resists Landlord Harassment

As the movement for decent, low-income housing becomes more organized in Uptown, each day brings more buildings and more landlords into direct contact with the Uptown Tenants Survival Union.

Vernon and Delia Kohel, Jim and Beverly Hackett and their neighbors are presently locked in a struggle with their manager and landlord. Elvin Hines took over management of the building at 4757 N. Malden shortly after the Kohel family moved in. He began almost at once to provoke them, attacking and insulting their children, offending their visitors and guests. The Kohels, understanding that the problem was Hines' racism against Native Americans, tried hard to ignore him.

Soon, he began to call the police regularly to report "strange activities" in the Kohel's apartment. He blamed Mr. and Mrs. Kohel and their children for vandalism in which they took no part. Each time, police would rush to the house, many times with guns drawn, only to find Mrs. Kohel sitting quietly in the house with the children or Mr. Kohel repairing something.

As the obvious harassment went on, the Hacketts and the other two families grew closer to the Kohels, and the manager initiated similar actions against them. One day in early July, Mr. Hackett opened his front door to a knock, finding a .45 automatic with a policeman at the other end, stuck between his eyes. On another occasion, Mrs. Hackett, several months pregnant, was confronted by a policeman who shoved a .38 caliber revolver in her stomach on her way downstairs.

The Kohels, who have been arrested numerous times on false complaints by Hines, contacted the Uptown Tenants Survival Union early in July. A building club was formed shortly after that. The

The Kohels and the Hacketts, with full support from the 500 member families of the UTSU, have decided to withhold rents until the owner signs an agreement promising to remove the manager.

club, consisting of the four families on the upper two floors, has determined to maintain unity and force Hines to leave the building and his job as manager.

Recognizing that their real power rests in the fact that they collectively control $800 per month while they occupy four of the building's six apartments and that the landlady, sooner or later, will be brought to her knees by the constant demands of her creditors and her inability to collect rents, the four families have decided to withhold rents until the owner signs an agreement promising to remove the manager. With the full support of the 500 member families of the UTSU and its competent legal staff, the Hacketts, the Kohels and their neighbors are prepared for a long, hard battle.

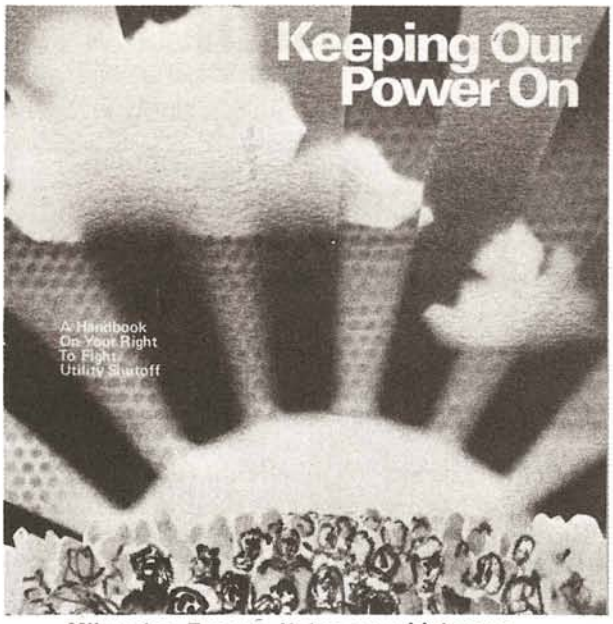
As *KEEP STRONG* goes to press, Mr. Hackett has been provoked by Hines' threat of having his children taken away and arrested on an alleged disorderly conduct charge. Hines, desperate to avoid a long, drawn out court battle, is using every scheme and device to break the back of the tenants club. The families, however, remain united and determined not to be pushed out.

Each time Hines shuts off one family's electricity, the rest of the club members are there to aid and share what little they have. Every appearance by the police on one of Hines' absured calls, brings all the tenants out to personally testify to the others' innocence.

Because it is based in a real and common desire for adequate housing, the club like the city-wide tenants movement will not be destroyed by a few attacks of a vicious landlord. O

"*Heat* Is A *Right* Committee" *Fights* In *Milwaukee*

Milwaukee tenants have been organizing and using collectively a little known legal procedure to fight outrageous gas rates and unscrupulous gas company practices. Between January and May the Milwaukee Tenants Union collected over 400 complaints which they turned into the Public Service Commission, required by law to regulate the Wisconsin Gas Company. About one-half of these complaints said that the Wisconsin Gas Co. violated the rights of consumers. The complaints



Milwaukee Tenants Union pamphlet cover.

ranged from overcharging to shut-offs without notice to refusal to give medical extensions and failure to respond to customer complaints.

When the Public Service Commission drew up the rules on disputes, they never really expected anyone to dispute utility bills and have only one secretary to process all of the 400 complaints filed to date. Meanwhile, while the complaints are being processed, there can be no shut-offs. The Milwaukee Tenants Union's "Heat is a Right Committee" has been pressuring the PSC to investigate these complaints and announce the results of the investigations to all gas company customers.

At the same time the PSC has announced quietly that a hearing will be held for the purpose of raising gas rates. Although the rate increase would only affect residents of Milwaukee County, the hearing is taking place in Madison on August 2.

Tim Kelly, a spokesperson for the "Heat is a Right Committee" said that "having the hearing in Madison is a standard tactic of the PSC to avoid public contact with the consumers." The committee has decided to mobilize hundreds of its members and other consumers to attend the hearing in Madison, demanding that it be rescheduled and held in Milwaukee at a time convenient for the consumers.

Kelly further stated, "It is our opinion that the PSC functions as a rubber stamp for the utilities, and we are in the process of formulating demands to create real public input."O

ARSON WATCH

Fire Deaths Part O/CityPlan

Thirteen deaths by suspected arsons, over half of them children, brought Chicago's arson problem to the attention of the media in the last week of July. Focused on the northwest side, where community representatives claim over 1,000 fires have occurred in the last few years, community groups called meetings attended by hundreds of angry residents and demanded to meet directly with Mayor Daley.

At first refusing to meet with the community personally, Daley sent his over-used peacemaker - assistant Kenneth Sain to attend one meeting at St. Mark's Church on Campbell and Cortez, the scene of a funeral one day before for victims of a suspicious fire at 2309 W. Thomas. Sain placed the reason for the arson problem on the unwillingness of community residents to co-operate with police arson investigators and was booed and taunted out of the meeting.

As the fires continued and arson stayed on the T.V. news programs and in the newspapers, various explanations were given for the rising number of fires in the neighborhood. Racial tension was blamed. Then it was a gang problem. But the truth behind the "mystery fires" on the northwest side is gradually emerging.

Standing in full view of the T.V. news cameras, Father Hildebrand who is a Northwest Community Organization activist, showed that the area hit so disastrously by arson coincides exactly with the infamous "Plan 21" area. The Chicago 21 Plan is the city's master plan for "redeveloping the inner city" and what many community leaders are calling the latest and most blatant poor people removal by the city to date. Speculators have been involved in fierce activity, buying up property and seeking windfall profits. Arson, used to collect insurance on buildings that would be sold and torn down anyway for the Chicago 21 Plan, is rampant not only in the "21" areas on the northwest side, but in "21" areas throughout the city. According to informed sources one of the main real estate tycoons behind wheeling and dealing in the arson-plagued area is recently convicted machine alderman Thomas Keane.

After excellent work along with other organizations in bringing the arson problem to the

The truth behind the "mystery fires" on the northwest side is gradually emerging; the area hit so disastrously by arson coincides exactly with the infamous Chicago 21 Plan area.

attention of the entire city, Northwest Community Organization representatives met with Mayor Daley and agreed to "praise the Mayor" for disappointingly small promises. Daley committed himself to putting more arson investigators on the scene and again implied that the problem would be solved if the citizens of the area would cooperate with the police. No mention of well-known speculators and slumlords or the affects of the Chicago 21 Plan itself was mentioned. At the same time however, the U.S. attorneys' office promised a grand jury investigation of the problem.

Shortly after the community group met with Daley, another "suspicious fire" took the lives of six victims, including two young girls at 4855-57 N. Wolcott. 0

LEGAL RIGHTS

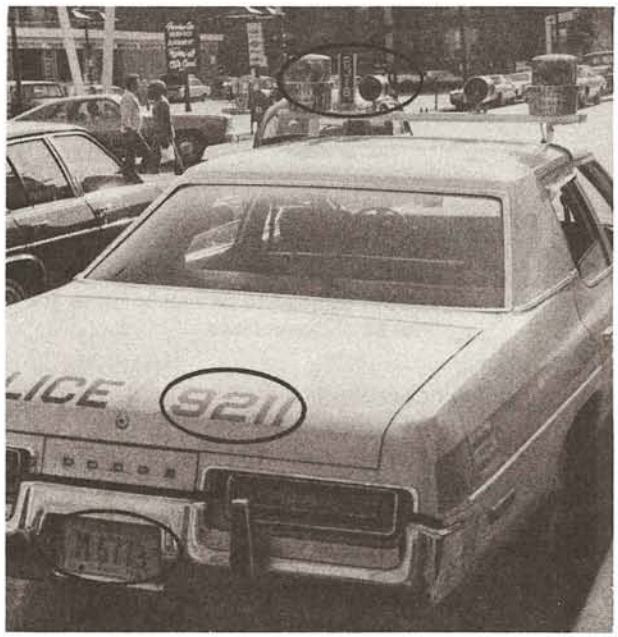
Street Law - Know What To Look For

Illegal search and seizure; illegal and unnecessary physical assaults by police resulting in cover-up charges of resisting arrest and battery against a police officer; illegal seizure of property, belts, sweaters, cash, and jewelry; rumor-mongering that has provoked gang activity and other antagonisms in the community are frequent complaints brought to the legal program of the 46th Ward Community Service Center.

Legal workers at the Service Center told this reporter that despite many police abuses of the law, few successful lawsuits are filed against the Chicago Police Department. "Too often people just don't get the information needed to even identify the officers involved." Attributing this to police intimidation and lack of knowledge about the kind of facts needed, they say much of the information necessary to take action is never gotten and recorded.

Badge numbers, names, the date, the time, patrol car numbers, license numbers, beat numbers, good physical description of the police involved, names and addresses of witnesses are all desirable in tracking down the offending officers.

The car number is along the side of each fender of the squad car. The beat number is on the windshield, usually behind the sun visor or the rear view mirror. If the squad car has a double blue mars rig on the roof there will be a small sign with four numbers on it. The first two numbers indicate what district the squad car is from. The last two numbers indicate which beat that car has been assigned to patrol.. With this

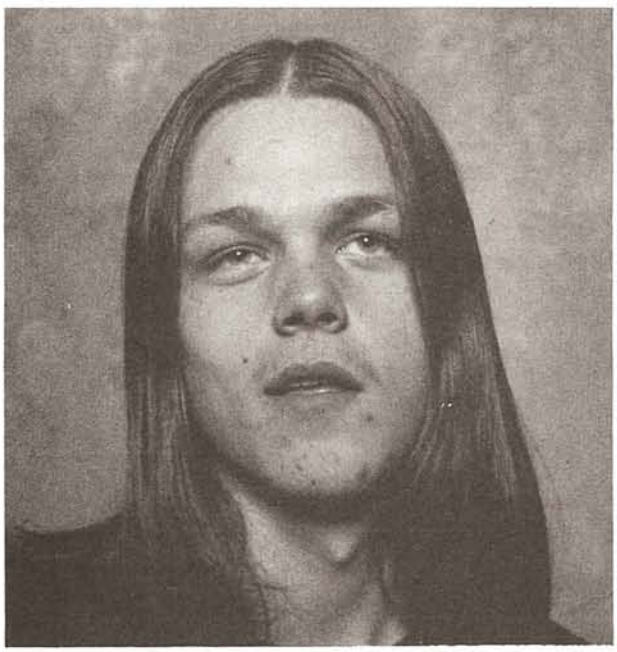


information and the time of day it can be determined who the officers in the car are.

"Too often the police feel they can get away with anything, including murder. We have to make it our business to see what they're up to, watch them when they break the law, remember the details and facts as they happen and write them down, so that we can make the police accountable for their actions."0

Public Defenders Criticized

Hailed as a progressive step forward in the criminal justice system, the public defender structure was established in 1952. While improving the system somewhat, public defenders have none the less often been charged with giving out false information and misleading advice to clients



Ronnie Bowling does not need to be locked up In the House of Corrections.

in an effort to decrease their workload.

According to both legal advocates and attorneys, Ronnie Bowling does not need to be in jail. But because he followed the advice of a public defender, the 17 year old youth is presently locked up in the House of Corrections.

On July 16, Ronnie arrived late for his first court date. He was told by his public defender that there was a warrant out for him and that he should leave. Not understanding courtroom procedure, Ronnie left. This was a mistake according to legal workers; "He should have had the public defender tell the clerk he had arrived, and his name would have been read again at the end of the first call. If the public defender had been doing her job she would have recalled the case, had the warrant quashed and a new date set," commented one experienced legal advocate.

According to most courtroom observers it is common practice for the clerk to read the names of those people who missed the first call a second time. They advise staying at court even if late since most reasons for being late are accepted.

A warrant is issued ten days after a person misses his/her court date. But since the public defender did not tell Ronnie this, he was picked up by the police on July 27 and taken to the House of Corrections. Unable as of yet to be released on his previous bond, Ronnie has been incarcerated almost a week, as *KEEP STRONG* goes to press.D

POLICE WATCH

Policemen Participate In *Marquette Park Rock Throwing*

At least eight police officers are under investigation by the Chicago Police Department for allegedly being part of the rock-throwing crowd that assaulted marchers in Marquette Park on July 17. According to a *Sun-Times* report, the officers, off-duty that day, have been identified through police video tapes taken of the incident. However, only the name of officer Kenneth Earner of the Kensington District has been released.

Earner was arrested for allegedly throwing objects at the marchers. He was reportedly freed at the district station after claiming he had been on an undercover assignment. Supervisors say they later found he was off duty and not performing undercover work. Earner was arrested again later.

Police officer Earner was arrested twice for allegedly throwing objects at the marchers.

One marcher was arrested for trying to defend himself; contempt of court charges have been filed against the Chicago Police Department for providing the marchers inadequate police protection.

While a Cook County Grand Jury has been formed to probe racial violence in Cook County, and Justice Department officials have met with police officials to discuss the racial tensions and the methods being used by police in handling them, the marchers have gone to court. Attorneys representing the Martin Luther King, Jr. Movement filed contempt of court charges against the Chicago Police Department. Charging that inadequate police protection was provided the 250 Black and white marchers protesting housing segregation in Marquette Pa~k on July 17, they are to return to court August 3.

Thirty-three persons including 16 police officers were injured, and 63 persons arrested in the July 17 incident involving a 40 minute confrontation between the marchers and over 1,000 whites near 71st and California on Chicago's southwest side. Despite the presence of some 400 police officers, who were allegedly assigned to protect the marchers following a court order to do so by federal Judge Grady, the group was brutally attacked with bricks, rocks and bottles.

The American Nazi Party and the Ku Klux Klan have been active in instigating racial violence in the area. The Nazis, led by 31-year-old Frank Collin have their headquarters in Marquette Park. Collin is running for Congress on the ticket of the White Power Party.

Prior to the July 17 march, the KKK circulated hate literature throughout Marquette Park urging whites to protest against "this march by the black racemixers" and to "Save the White Race."

The Martin Luther King Jr. Movement is planning a picnic in Ogden Park August 7. The intent of the picnic is to organize and build for a march August 21 in Marquette Park. They have applied for a permit for the march at which they expect 5,000 people.D

"We Don't Need No *Search Warrant"*

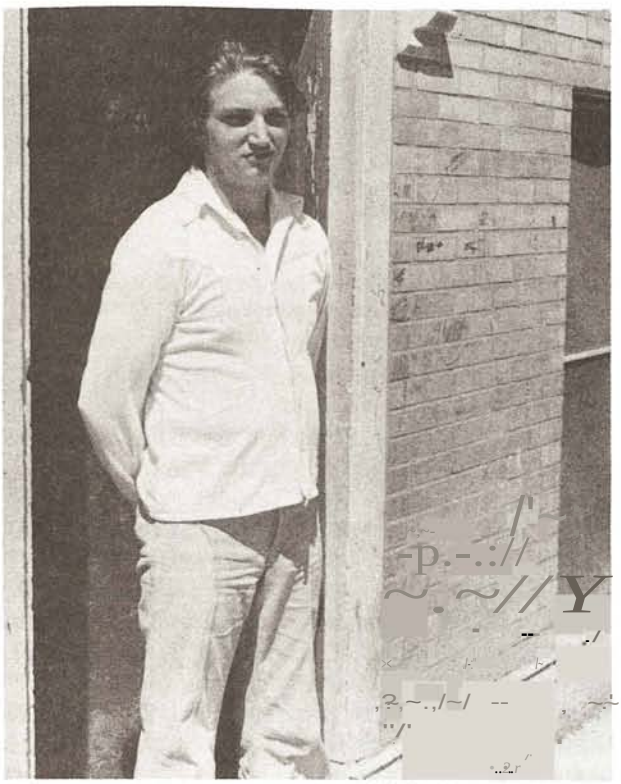
"They didn't identify themselves. They just pushed their way in and started messing things up." Spoken by Timothy Turner, these words reflect what many residents around the Sunnyside Mall consider to be a growing problem - police brutality and harassment.

Constructed in the spring of 1974,che Mall was built to complement the new Northeast Community College on Wilson and Racine. The $2

million project, consisting of concrete on top of concrete has become the focal point of an intense police attack upon the community.

On June 30, as he was standing outside his apartment door at 4501 N. Malden, Timothy Turner was pushed aside by two members of the 23rd District Chicago Police Department. Under the guise of "looking for a missing child" the police quickly moved into the house and proceeded to overturn and ransack the apartment. "They threw the clothes on the floor, went through the refrigerator and messed the whole house up."

Upholding his rights, Mr. Turner demanded to



Timothy Turner: "The police didn't identify themselves. They pushed their way in and started messing things up."

see a search warrant only to be told, "We don't need no search warrant. You've been watching too much T.V." Not content with tearing the house apart, the officers turned to Mrs. Turner who is pregnant with her second child, and threatened to have her children taken away.

For over an hour the police terrorized the family, searching, throwing things around and threatening physical violence. Not once did the police explain their purpose, offer to pay for damages or explain their conduct. In fact, the only statement they made was another threat as they left; "If you want trouble, punk, we'll give it to you." Mr. Turner feels that the police were trying to provoke him into a fight, but because he had seen these two policemen before on the Mall and knew of their brutal character, he avoided the trap.

Echoing the sentiments of his neighbors, Mr. Turner told *KEEP STRONG*, "They violated my rights as a citizen. Why don't they try and get the gangsters instead of the poor people. They figure because poor people don't have any money they can mess them over. They told me if they ever caught me in the right spot they would finish me off. But I'm not afraid; I'm a human being just like they are."D

High Police Official Indicted By Grand Jury

Deputy Police Superintendent Mitchell Ware, who rose through the ranks of the Chicago Police Department while waging a fierce war against youth groups and progressive organizations such as the Black Panther Party and the Young Lords Organization, has been indicted by a grand jury on charges of conspiring to violate a federal wiretapping law. Ware has been charged with 17 overt criminal acts of electronic eavesdropping from June, 1970 through December, 1972, while

Deputy Police Superintendent Mitchell Ware has been charged with 17 overt criminal acts of electronic eavesdropping.

director of the Illinois Bureau of Investigation.

Currently the third in command of the Chicago Police Department, Ware has been temporarily relieved of his duties. However, he will be reassigned to an unspecified staff role and his $35,000 a year salary will not be reduced, according to police Superintendent James Rochford. Rochford has said that if the charges are proven he will ask for Ware's resignation.D

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Waupun, *Wisconsin-Inmates Rebel Against Brutal Prison Conditions*

Rebelling against inhumane prison conditions, 88 prisoners at Waupun State Prison took over the industrial building, taking 14 prison employees hostage for 13 hours Wednesday, July 21. Despite the inmates' good faith release of hostages after being promised amnesty, a generallockdown was ordered Sunday, July 25, with some of the inmates involved in the July 21 uprising being confined in segregation.

Major inmate complaints included poor health care, excessive use of the segregation unit known as the "hole," guard brutality, harassment of prisoners and their families and efforts by guards to stir racial conflicts. Inmates asked for an increase in the daily wage of 50 cents and a change in the due process system for disciplinary procedures. (The system calls for judgements by guards who are colleagues of the guards who issue the conduct reports). There is also a fear among inmates that they will be sent to the underground isolation cells (death chambers) that were built last year but reportedly never used under orders of Gov. Lucey. Construction of the isolation cells sparked a hunger strike last year to bring public attention. The call was heeded by the Milwaukee Black Panther Party which organized mass community support and nationwide attention to the Waupun inmates' plight.. The Black Panther Party collected 10,000 petition signatures demanding abolishment of the "death chambers" and an end to prison racism, brutality, poor health care services,

Spokesmen (from right): Inmates **Clayton Cook and Anthony Miller; and State Senator Monroe Swan.**

unfair wages, unsafe working conditions, administrative corruption, and practices that constitute "cruel and unusual punishment." The initial grassroots organizing efforts of the Milwaukee BPP were largely responsible for the order by Gov. Lucey not to use the underground isolation cells. Some inmates charged during the July 21 rebellion that the isolation cells were being- used, an allegation which has been denied by Warden Mathews.

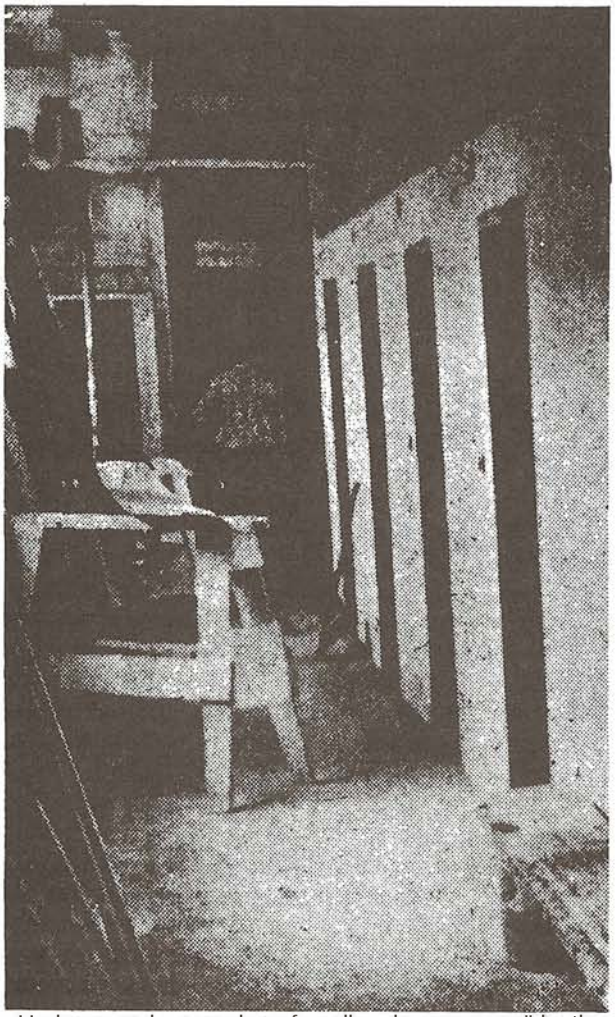
Also denying that inmates are beaten on a regular basis, Warden James Mathews has categorically refused to consider the inmates' demands, saying it is a matter for the legislature. Mathews has been charged by both inmates and prison observers with "warehousing" inmates who deserve parole in order to pressure the state into building another prison to create more correction jobs, according to the *Milwaukee Courrier.*

In a related development, a class action suit was filed in federal court in Madison charging that prison officials failed to keep their promise not to take action against inmates after last month's takeover. The federal court suit was filed by Clayton Cook, a leader in the July 21 uprising; Karleton Armstrong, convicted of an anti-war bombing at the University of Wisconsin at Madison; Michael Sturdevant, a leader of the

Menominee Warrior Society; and Madison Attys. Mark Frankel, Sarah O'Brien and Elizabeth Alexander. The suit charges that John Latender and Anthony Miller, two prisoners identified as leaders of the uprising, have since been placed in segregation confinement inspite of promises of amnest'Y by prison officials. The suit also charges that no mail has been sent in or out of the prison since the rebellion and that visits by attorneys had been suspended indefinitely.

Len Kowalski, administrative assistant to Warden James Mathews, said plans were to resume attorneys' visiting privileges Wednesday, July 28, and limited visiting hours for others on the weekend.

Dr. Robert Turcott will not be returning to the prison after his current leave of absence, Warden James Mathews said Thursday, July 22. Turcott was the target of many of the inmates' complaints particularly since last year's hunger strike protest. One of the major complaints of the July 21 rebellion was poor health care.



Underground, soundproof cells, known as "death chambers," when they were under construction at Waupun State Prison outside Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Other factors in the latest rebellion were overcrowding and racism. Waupun State PrIson has a rated capacity of 876, yet at the time of the takeover the prison had an inmate population of 1,158. There are only two Black prison guards at Waupun out of a staff. that numbers 201, according to Warden Mathews.D

Tensions Increase At Dwight State Prison

Following demands to see the warden, approximately 23 women inmates from one cottage were teargassed and brutally forced to segregation on July 12, 1976 at Dwight State Prison in Dwight, Illinois. A new order from the warden that one cottage have an early 10 p.m. curfew prompted the women to refuse to go to bed until they received an explanation.

Citing needs for better health care, better vocational programs and an end to the maximum security classification, as well as racist treatment by the guards, representatives of the Chicago Women's Prison Project charge that unexplained petty harassment has increased at the women's prison. This, they say, has contributed to an increasingly tense situation for the women housed there.

A suit has been filed in federal court demanding that the women be removed from segregation and placed back in the main population, and that while they remain in segregation, conditions be improved. Noting that the women were given a "30 day investigative status" which does not meet the due process standards of the court, the suit requests adequate medical care, warm food instead of cold, one woman to a room instead of two, the granting of their personal possessions and adequate recreation and shower facilities.

Granting a temporary restraining order, the judge ordered two showers a week, two hours of recreation a week and no handcuffs to parole hearings for the women. However, he refused to hear the entire order saying that all that was appropriate for a temporary restraining order was "life sustaining" provisions. No date has been set for their next court appearance. O

HEALTH NEWS

"They Had Her On *Their 'Pay* Me No *Mind' List"*

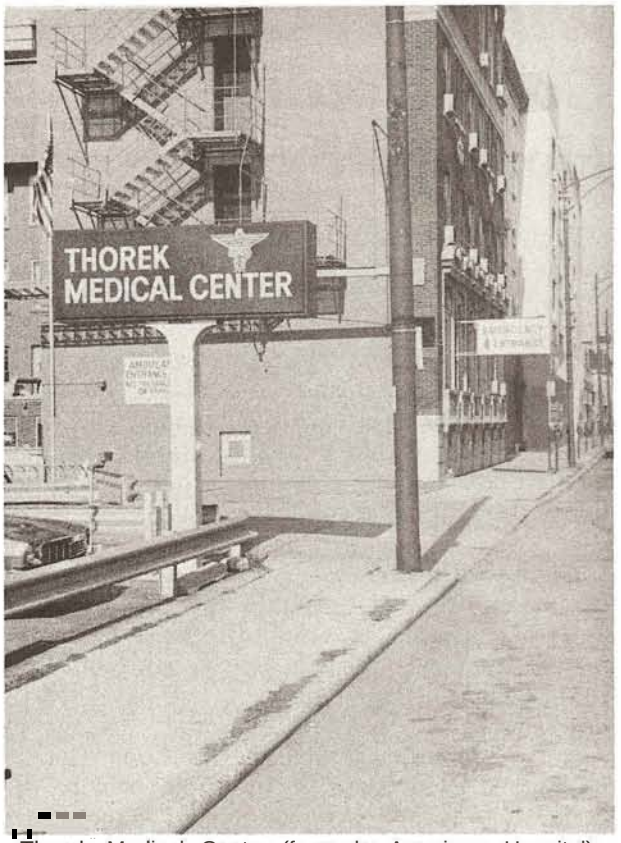
Death in the oppressed community is a commonplace event. But when it is the result of neglect on the part of the institutions in that community it becomes even harder to.accept. For years, the medical profession in poor neighborhoods has been criticized for an uncaring and profit-making attitude. With each passing day more instances of abuse or neglect are reported to community organizations.

Trudy Taylor never lived to report her story. On June 30, Trudy complained to her husband of pains and of difficulty breathing. Concerned about her health, Mr. Taylor took her to Thorek Medical Center (formerly American Hospital). She was sent home. "They had her on their 'pay me no mind' list," said Mr. Taylor. "They said she was just drunk and sent her away with a prescription we couldn't even fill on her medical card."

Three days went by and Ms. Taylor's medical condition worsened. On Saturday morning, July 3, her husband unsuccessfully tried to convince Trudy to go back to the hospital.. Her bre~thing had become worse and the pain in her abdomen had increased. "I wanted to take her right then but she said to wait until I came home from work. I usually work for about three hours on Saturday mornings, but that day it ended up to be about five hours."

At 2 p.m. Mr. Taylor arrived home and prepared to call a cab to take Trudy to the hospital.. But she was feeling somewhat better and asked to wait a day so they could have a Fourth of July picnic together the next day. Since the picnic was something he knew his wife had been looking forward to and she appeared to be in better health, Mr. Taylor agreed.

At 9 p.m. Ms. Taylor began coughing violently and throwing up black mucus. Taking no more chances, Mr. Taylor called a cab to take her to the hospital.. Forty minutes passed and still no cab arrived. No longer waiting, Mr. Taylor called the fire department and asked for an ambulance. By the time the ambulance arrived his wife was lying unconscious on the floor of the lobby of their apartment on N. Kenmore St.



Thorek Medical Center (formerly American Hospital) where Trudy Taylor was sent away with a prescription she couldn't even fill.

When smelling salts failed to revive her, Ms. Taylor was carried to the ambulance and taken to Illinois Masonic Hospital.. Placing her in intensive care, the hospital told Mr. Taylor there was nothing more he could do and to go home.

Arriving home, Mr. Taylor fell asleep from exhaustion and awoke the next morning at 6 a.m. "I was too scared to call the hospital, too scared to find out anything. I waited 'til the afternoon and then called to see if there was anything I could bring her since visiting hours started at 2 p.m."

At 1:30 p.m. on July 4, Mr. Taylor talked with Illinois Masonic Hospital and was told that his wife was not there. Stunned, he called back. This time he was told curtly, "Oh, she's dead." The hospital spokesman then hung up.

Al Taylor still does not know why his wife died. He only knows the loss of her. "I know to them she was a nothing. But to me she was my wife. She was all I had."O

Will They Close Cook County Hospital?

Rumors that there is talk in the smoke-filled rooms to close Cook County Hospital have been given more credibility in recent weeks as a special Cook County Board Commission held quiet hearings about the usefulness of the city's only public hospital and "alternative plans" to replace it. These alternative plans would have private hospitals take over the patients that now go to Cook County Hospital, while the public hospital itself would be phased out.

Angry witnesses testified at the hearing that these same private hospitals have been turning away poor people, especially Blacks and Latinos, for years, even from their emergency rooms. All too frequently, ambulances speed past nearby hospitals on their way to the County emergency room. A move to transfer the Cook County patient load to private hospitals which will certainly turn them away or give inadequate care is simply a move to deprive poor people in the city of what few health care opportunities they have.

In 1975 alone over 700,000 patients were seen at the County Hospital.. 300,000 were treated at County's Fantus Clinic. 500,000 patients were admitted to the hospital.. 350,000 emergency room victims were rushed to County in the same year. Where, asked community witnesses at the hearing, will these thousands of patients find medical care?

If Cook County Hospital is closed, where **will its** thousands of patients go?

Meanwhile, a delegation of staff physicians at County recommended to the Cook County Board Committee replacement of the hospital's 1500-bed facility with a new hospital of 800 to 1,000 beds. Dr. Vincent Collins urged the Hospital Advisory Committee to "continue to improve our institution rather than destroy it."

The Advisory Committee was formed in March to study the hospital's status and recommend to the County Board whether the aged facility should be replaced or phased out. The hospital's 40 and 50 bed wards apparently do not conform to state and federal hospital standards which require four-bed rooms. O

FIGHTING CITY HALL

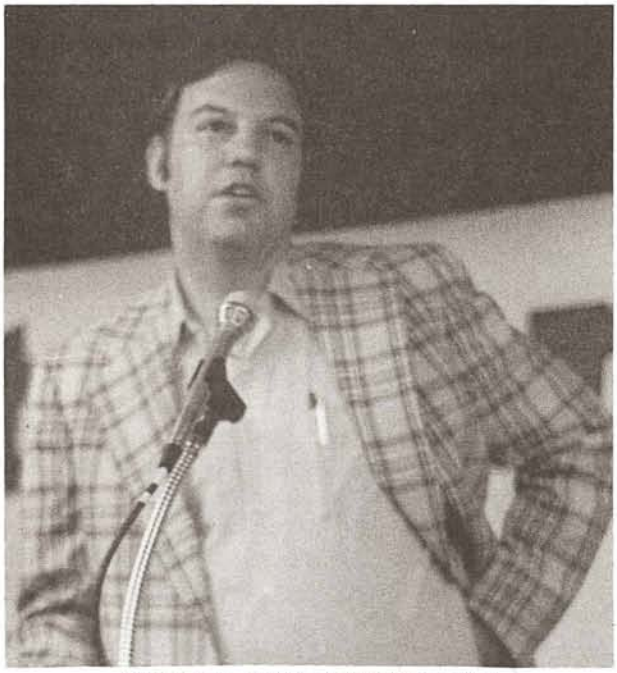
"A *Fighting Alderman"*

Speaking at last month's *KEEP STRONG* Banquet, 44th ward alderman Dick Simpson drew applause several times for his attempts to force the city to adopt creative and necessary changes and his willingness to stand up and "fight city hall."

Simpson drew bitter laughter when he said, "The nice thing about Chicago is there is no ambiguity. I have seen many strange things in Chicago, but I've never seen any ambiguity in government. Here we like our tyranny straight; no confusion, no ambiguity, no uncertainty. Mayor Daley rules this city, Mayor Daley's political machine continues to control this city, and anybody who doesn't like it can end up in jail or doing other things which the Mayor likes to suggest."

Commenting on crucial issues coming up in city council, Simpson explained a few of the most important:

* There will be hearings on eviction laws. New ordinances up for consideration could make lock-outs and other kinds of force-outs criminal offenses.



44th Ward Alderman Dick Simpson

* Budget hearings on hunger in Chicago are coming up. As of last year, Daley and his crew dedded no one was hungry in Chicago and eliminated the hunger program from the budget.

* Simpson's own proposal to create ward assemblies where representative groups in each ward could direCt their alderman's actions in the city council, and community zoning boards where a community board could decide on zoning questions in the ward, are now pending.

* Freedom of information questions are now pending as Daley's mob in the council plans to vote to make it impossible for citizens to get copies or even access to city council proceedings and other documents hidden in the big building on LaSalle St.

Simpson pointed out that the city has no housing program, and that even before the recent economic hard times, the city had lost 211,000 jobs. Finally, charging that the schools are not built to educate but to warehouse, the progressive alderman called for local control of neighborhood schools.

Commenting on *KEEP STRONG's* recent victory over the Chicago Police Department which had tried to keep the magazine off the streets, Simpson said, "A man named Jefferson said, "Were it left for me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter.'. Talking in Chicago or in the United States today, we might go a little farther and say that if you have the newspapers, and you have the ideas, and if you talk about what should be done, then one day the people will get together and create the government they deserve."D

Police Spy Suits Combined

In another blow to police spying, a federal judge has ordered the Chicago Police Department to surrender 150 of its secret intelligence files to the American Civil Liberties Union.

U.S. district court judge Alfred Y. Kirkland approved the ACLU's request in a pretrial conference in early July. The conference was held in response to a suit filed by the ACLU and nine other organizations and 17 individuals whose civil rights had been violated by the police activity.

The establishing of the illegal files, which contain information on peace groups, community organizations, major newspapers, political figures and organizations, and unions, has been criticized and fought against by progressive forces throughout the city since their existence was first learned of.

The ACLU suit filed by noted attorneys Robert Howard and Robert Vollen is one of three major injunctive and damage actions that has arisen from police spying. Awarded class action status several weeks ago by Kirkland, the suit is now being brought on behalf of all those persons and groups who may have been victims of the watergate-styled spying.

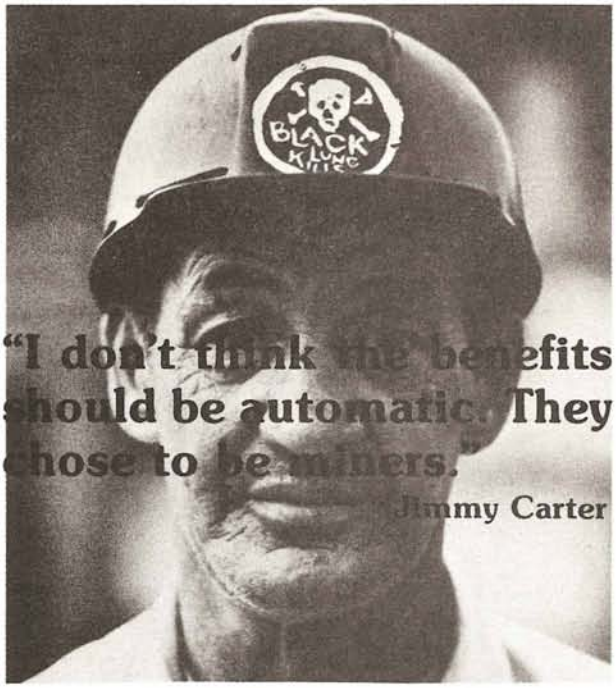
Because Kirkland is hearing all three suits he has elected to consolidate the ACLU suit with the Alliance to End Repression's "Red Squad Suit." This move will enable the Alliance and the ACLU to share evidence.

The Alliance suit was filed along with 32 other organizations and individuals. It charges that police spying has violated individual rights of privacy, free speech and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure. According to the suit, illegal wiretapping, burglaries and infiltration of organizations were carried out by the police under the direction and with the knowledge of Mayor Daley.D

BLACK LUNG

What Will Carter Do *For Miners?*

On June 11, 1976, a lengthy article appeared in New Times *magazine, written by Bob Shrum, a weU-respected and talented democratic party speech writer. Shrum had gone to work for Carter, writing his speeches, at Carter's request, but quit the presidential campaign just as it became obvious that Carter would be victorious at the convention. In the* New Times *article Shrum details his "1."nttmate"discussions with Carter and in the following excerpt gives an inside look at Carter's position on mine safety and black lung legislation.*



Tuesday, April 20

"I spent the afternoon rewriting Carter's statement on mine health and safety for his visit the next morning to a coal mine in Finleyville, Pennsylvania. The issues staff had consulted over a period of a week or ten days with outside experts, primarily officials of the United Mine Workers. Carter already had pages of background material.. But after the draft was done, everyone in the issues office warned: 'Jimmy will never do it'; 'It's too specific'; 'It will offend the mineowners.'. They acted like shell-shocked veterans of a losing battle fought too many times. Was it them or Carter? I read the draft to Jody Powell; he was at home with the flu. 'It's kind of strong, but I like it. It's the kind of thing we've got to get Jimmy to start saying.'

Wednesday, April 21

"I rode with Carter in his car to a 7:00 a.m. shift change at a steel plant. He asked some questions about the mine health and safety stateme~t; 'Who sponsors the bills (in Congress)?' I listed the names. 'How much will it cost?' I repeated the figures which were in the briefing material.. He kept playing with his class ring. 'What do the mine operators thinlt?' I almost blurted out, 'Who cares?' - but he obviously did, so I said they were against it. Carter struck out a provision to extend automatic black lung benefits to all miners who put in 30 years before the date when 90 percent of coal mines finally meet federal dust standards. He approved the rest of the statement. We stopped in front of a coffee shop outside the plant gate. He smiled instantly, ear to ear, as he stepped out of the car.

"I left the campaign caravan briefly after the next stop, a Pittsburgh T.V. station, to run off 50 copies of the statement on a borrowed Xerox machine. I caught up at the Finleyville mine. Carter was already dQwn in the mine shaft. Another staffer pulled me aside; 'I need to talk to you.' We went into a room and she closed the door. 'Don't release it; Jimmy thinks it's too radical.'

"An evening flight through a thunderstorm from Pittsburgh to Wilkes barre. Halfway there Carter wanted to 'chat.' He was in his seat, staring straight ahead at the bulkhead. On the plane, when he isn't reviewing a memo or meeting with someone he often just stares at the bulkhead. I never saw a book in his hands while traveling or on the nightstand in his hotel room.

"I sat down next to him. No one sits there regularly. It's the 'business' seat. It's empty much of the time. No small talk here. Carter was apologetic. He was 'sorry' about the mine statement. 'But I couldn't endorse these things. They're too controversial and expensive.'. His tone turned almost bitter. 'Why should I do this for Arnold Miller if he won't come and endorse me?' He looked away at the bulkhead. Then flatly, in an even voice, he said: 'I don't think the benefits should be automatic. They chose to be miners.'. .... ."

In Memoriam

CLOVIS WARREN
July 8, 1921 - *July* 13, 1976

Clovis Warren worked in the mines in Kentucky from 1941 until 1953 when he suffered a collapsed lung, leaving him weakened and short of breath. He was forced to stop working the mines and moved to Chicago where he worked for 20 years in construction.

His condition continued to worsen after 1953, and he continued to get more and more varied diagnoses of his problem. Some doctors said he had TB, some said silicosis, others pneumonia. When he finally became too sick to work construction he continued to struggle to survive as a manager-janitor of the apartment building he lived in.

In 1953 he filed for black lung benefits. In spite of doctors reports diagnosing Clovis as having black lung and breathing test results that met the standard of the law for disability due to black lung, he was turned down for black lung benefits on May 28, 1976 because "he continued to work for 20 years after leaving the mines," a reason clearly unacceptable by the June, 1976 Supreme Court decision.

He came to CABLA in June, 1976. Suddenly in

continued on page 22

ARTHUR E. SMITH
November 19, *1920* - *July* 14, 1976

From 1947 to 1959 Arthur Smith worked in the mines in Kipperston, West Virginia. Having difficulty breathing, Mr. Smith left the mines to work in a warehouse. He continued this work until one year ago when his health became so bad that he had to stop. Because he was not able to get through the bureaucracy to draw black lung compensation, Mr. Smith was living off of unemployment compensation until his untimely death. Although his health was very bad - bedridden most of the time, he would often stay up half the night because of severe coughing and because he couldn't catch his breath - Arthur Smith could not get a medical card from the state. Because of this he didn't see a doctor during the last of his life.

Joining the Chicago Area Black Lung Association shortly after its formation in early 1976, Arthur Smith was found dead in his apartment when two other members came by to line up a medical appointment.

The coroner's report claims Arthur Smith died of a heart attack. This was based solely on an assumption made by the police officers who were called to his apartment. No medical personnel examined Smith before the coroner made his

continued on page 22

"A *Coal Miner's Daughter"*

"I'mLorettaLynn. You know, my ddddy was a coal miner in eastern Kentucky. Coal has always been a part of my life ... a tradition. But what is breaking that tradition is the way coal is mined today. Companies like Amax Coal have made things different for the miners. It's still hard work. But there's better pay, shorter hours, and more concern about health, safety and protecting our environment. America needs coal more than ever before. I'm proud of the coal mining business, and still proud that I'm a coal miner's daughter. "

Loretta Lynn

Besides mines in Kentucky, Indiana and southern Illinois, Amax Coal Company owns the Belle Ayr mine in Gillette, Wyoming. This subbituminous mine at full capacity is the largest mine in the U.S. and possibly the world.

In 1972 the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) signed a contract with them. On November 12, 1974 that contract expired and was extended to January 12, 1975 along with the UMWA contracts with the other western coal companies. Negotiations continued beyond this date as miners went on strike. In February, 1975 the UMWA reached agreement with all the coal companies except Amax.

Using strike breakers Amax opened its Belle Ayre mine of March 24, 1975. Sending a letter that was prepared to look as though it came from the National Labor Relations Board, Amax told strikers how they could resign from the union in order to avoid being fired. On top of this letter others were sent that included lies about the UMWA position at the negotiations and lies about the true conditions at the mine, according to UMWA legal representatives. The intent of these letters was to convince workers to stop striking and go back to work for Amax without union protection and without a contract. Since March, 1975 the mine has gone to full production and has refused to hire the strikers.

As a memorandum from the UMWA states: "Miss Lynn was born and raised in Harlan County, Kentucky, but it appears that money can easily dull a memory. We all know Amax for what it is - a leader of anti-union activity

"Loretta may have had a coal mining heritage, but she has chosen to sell it."

throughout the nation and especially in the west. This scab outfit is presently taking credit for implementing working conditions that the UNWA has had to fight tooth and nail for during the past decades. Amax still flagrantly violates state and federal health and safety laws. Worse yet, they get away with it.

"Loretta may have had a coal mining heritage, but she has chosen to sell it. Please keep this in mind if you are a former Loretta Lynn fan. DO NOT buy her records or patronize her in any other way!!"D

Clovis Warren

continued from page 21

July he discovered that he had developed a cancer that had begun in his lungs and spread throughout his body. When he died in the hospital they refused to give an autopsy to confirm his cause of death and to clarify the existence of black lung. Clovis Warren's surviving family and CABLA arranged for an independent autopsy to be performed after being refused by most Chicago hospitals. 0

Arthur E. Smith

continued from page 21

report despite family requests to the contrary.

Arthur Smith is survived by his wife and four children ages 17, 19, 23 and 24. An autopsy confirming that he had black lung would make them eligible to receive black lung benefits. Failing to get action out of the coroner's office, CABLA arranged for an independent autopsy to be made and expects the results back soon. 0

Uptown Survival Day Celebration

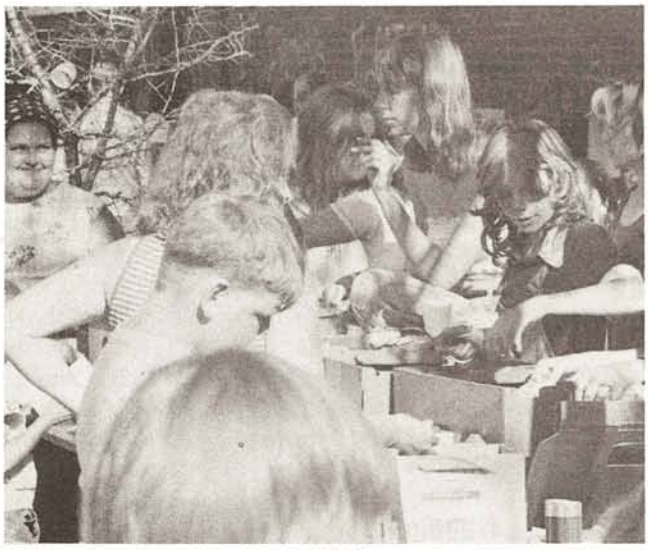
"Don't Put Your Burden Down!"

When the "helping hand" of the power structure is kept out, the community can solve its own problems; that was the lesson of the July 24 Survival Day held in Uptown on the Sunnyside Mall. Eight hours of good food, exciting entertainment, informative speakers, blood pressure screening and other effective survival booths combined with an enthusiastic and unified community atmosphere brought a steady stream of over 1,000 people to what is known as Uptown's "most troubled area." Although not one single day has passed in the last five months where police were not on the Mall stopping people, searching people, arresting people or chasing people every two or three hours, Survival Day proceeded without a single problem or incident, perhaps to the disappointment of Commander Hanley and his 23rd district police.

The intense community unity was achieved mainly through the youth of the neighborhood who banded together from different groups such as the Gaylords and the Kings to solve the many frictions that the city's policy of moving people forcibly from one neighborhood to another have caused. An efficient and effective core of neighborhood brothers worked throughout the day to "defend the community" and ensure the kind of enjoyment and unity our people have a right to.

ISC leading member Jack Hart was the well-organized program's emcee for the day. He introduced many community speakers who explained the steps forward that have been made in this community's fight for survival.. Joan Wallace explained both the mechanics and the savings involved in the rapidly growing Food Co-op. Then, Chicago Area Black Lung Association chairman Lawrence Zornes introduced a ten foot mural depicting the struggle in the mines, done by amazingly talented 11 year old Pansy Branham. In describing CABLA's fight for

Top to bottom: Jack Hart, ISC leading member; Joan Wallace, worker for the UTSU's Food Co-op; and Lawrence Zornes of CABLA with young muralist Pansy Branham.



miners stricken with the deadly disease, and for their families, Zornes struck a sombre but angry tone when telling of two new members of the association who had died of black lung after being denied benefits by the coal operator-controlled bureaucracy in Washington.

Speakers detailed the steady stream of victories achieved by the Uptown Tenants Survival Union, along with the legal defense and welfare defense programs of the 46th Ward Community Service Center.

Following a few songs by popular community entertainers Kim Nash and Gary Stromme, and three numbers by Jerome Smith and one of the members of "Baraboo," "Funky Down Home," the featured band of the afternoon, sent some fine country music sounds well out into the neighborhood to a wildly enthusiastic and "good-timing" audience.

Six hundred lunches had been provided earlier in the day by the Uptown Tenants Survival Union Free Lunch Program, which operates each week-day during the summer, providing lunches for 1,000 children at three neighborhood sites. After the band had finished playing and as the crowd was lining up for the hundreds of fried chicken dinners, Jack Hart introduced the last speaker of the day, ISC Coordinator Slim Coleman.

Slim began by pointing to the absence of police cars drag-racing across the Mall and asked the crowd to show their appreciation to the youth of the community who had brought peace and unity. After touching again on the success of the survival programs and calling for even more community participation, the ISC Coordinator asked that "we become watchful and prepare ourselves for something that is coming up in the next few months."

"The Democratic Convention that nominated peanuts Carter for president," he went on, "is

Clockwise starting top left: free blood pressure screening was provided by ECHO, a survival program of the Milwaukee ISC; the featured band of the afternoon, "Funky Down Home"; the final band of the day, "People of Truth"; ISC Coordinator Slim Coleman.

going to have something to do with us, even though we weren't represented there. Pretty soon the captains are going to be coming around here telling us that peanuts Carter was sent from heaven to solve all of our problems. 'If you vote for peanuts,', they will say, 'you can lay your burden down. You don't hav{ to fight for decent housing, or black lung benefits, or to stay on welfare, or to build a food co-op. You just have to vote for peanuts and stay away from trouble-makers that might weaken the Democratic Party.'. "

"But peanuts,",' said Coleman, "do not come from heaven. They come out of the ground and we need to keep our feet on the ground. We have had the democrats in government in Chicago for 30 years. Carter will not be any kind of change for us. The only way we are going to stop the city from moving us out of this community is to organize, organize and organize and never 'put our burden down' until we have what we need in our hands."

As the Survival Day crowd dug into the chicken dinners with homemade potato salad and other "good eats,",' the final band of the day, "People of Truth,",' knocked out the beginning of an hour and a half of solid people's music that had everyone dancing, clapping and singing along. The much appreciated group made no bones about which side it was on as they played songs that "took a message to Mayor Daley to wake up,"' and the crowd joined right in with them, some being helped up onto the stage to get right into the middle of things.

Much of the expenses for the day were paid for by contributions from local businesses whose advertisements appeared in an attractive "Survival Day" program. When it was all over, not only those who had come, but many more who had been watching to see if the day would go peacefully and successfully, commented that "we have to do this again. We are taking our community for ourselves.'TJ

Keep Strong Celebrates Its First Full Year Of Publication

1st Annual Banquet A Success

Elaine Brown, Chairperson of the Black Panther Party, was the keynote speaker at the First Annual *KEEP STRONG* Banquet, held July 17 at the Wellington Ave. United Church of Christ on Chicago's northside. *KEEP STRONG* magazine, published by the Intercommunal Survival Committee, an organization patterned after the Black Panther Party but functioning in the poor and oppressed white community, celebrated with the banquet its first full year of publication. Following a delectable meal of chicken breasts on pineapple, mushroom rice pilaf, stuffed tomatoes and a delicate meringue dessert, the magazine's editor, Helen Shiller began the evening's program. In her words, the main purpose of the magazine has been to give validity to the day to day struggle for survival of the people of the oppressed community and to inform and expose the moves of the power structure against them.

Ms. Brown spoke emotionally of slain Black Panther Party leader Fred Hampton and paid tribute to the attorneys and plaintiffs who have exposed the treacherous role of the FBI and other governmental agencies in his assassination through the current $47.7 million civil suit. She went on to call on oppressed people to "be watchful," warning that the "gameplan" illustrated recently at the Democratic Convention is much more serious even than the FBI COINTELPRO activities of the past. Speaking of her experience as an official delegate to the convention, Elaine said: "I couldn't believe it was 1976. I couldn't believe that six years had gone by, that all this information had been exposed to people, that we were all standing there in the same place at the same time. I couldn't believe that so many Black people and so many other people there were doing such a good job of buck dancing and betraying so many millions of others."

Referring to the July 4th demonstration in Philadelphia where "there is a mayor of a major city in this country that's more bizarre, more ignorant, more racist, more reactionary and more fascist than Richard Daley here in Chicago, that's Frank Rizzo in Philadelphia," Ms. Brown described the peaceful event. "The spirit of the demonstration left me with a lot of hopes. I left Philadelphia feeling very good that 60,000 people had come together to say to the United States of America: 'This is enough. Weare organized, we are united and we plan to go forward from this day on to organize for a new American Revolution. Come next July 4th, let there be a new day and a new time in this country.'. "

Also speaking at the well-attended banquet were Chicago Alderman Dick Simpson, Jeff Haas who is one of the attorneys in the Hampton civil suit and Arthur Kinoy, one of the country's most skilled constitutional lawyers and currently an organzier for the Mass Party Organizing Committee. A recurrent theme throughout was the need for unity and the demand that people organize independently of the Democratic or Republican parties to take power and the control over their own lives and institutions.

Commenting on the event, Editor Helen Shiller emphasized that the success of the magazine in the face of financial difficulties and a concerted police harassment which was successfully challenged in federal court, is really due to the people of the community. "The people put their struggles into the magazine, they sold it, and they bought it. It is a people's victory, and we are proud to have been part of it."O

Clockwise starting top left: Elaine Brown, Chairperson of the Black Panther Party; Helen Shiller, Editor, KEEP STRONG; attorneys James Chapman (left), Bob Howard (right) and Arthur Kinoy (insert) whose hard work and inspiration greatly helped to challenge police harassment of KEEP STRONG in federal court; Paris Smith (center) and his trio "Purple Circle" provided fine entertainment; the well-attended banquet; Deborah Johnson (left), Bill Hampton (center) and Fred Hampton, Jr.

Democratic Convention Nominates Carter, Squelches Dissent

The 1976 Democratic Convention last month, hailed by the press as an explosion of party unity and pictured on T.V. networks as a harmonious county fair, was according UNater reports more like an effective pressure cooker, smothering entirely those with even minor points of dissent.

Following the super-expensive primary process, the presidential candidate had already actually been picked from among those who had raised from their own organizations the millions of dollars necessary to stage such an exhaustive national campaign. Really all that remained was for representatives from around the country to "participate" in developing the platform on which that candidate, Jimmy Carter, would run and act in office with if he wins in November. But when the convention began, the thousands of delegates found that the platform was already written. Those in power during the convention had no intention of allowing a floor fight over such vital issues as unemployment, housing or military spending.

In fact, a well-organized "scare" campaign dominated the hall. Lined with tiers of security, delegates had difficulty even moving about. Those who wished to question particular planks in the totally vague and unspecific proposed platform were either hustled away into private meetings where deals were made or vamped on by scores of the party loyalists who claimed any "disruption" would weaken the party's efforts to defeat the Republicans.

Sadly, observers pointed out that a handful of true people's activists from the sixties climbed into their "place in the sun," leaving behind their former dedication to the people and hailed the conservative Georgia governor as "the answer."

The presidential candidate had already actually been picked from among those who had raised the millions of dollars necessary to stage such an exhaustive national campaign.

However, two cannonshots rocked the convention as Congressman Ron Dellums and ex-serviceman Ron Kovic addressed the convention as symbolic vice-presidential nominees. While their messages were met with the silence of those who wished these men did not even exist, their voices were heard by millions of people across the country, questioning what the imaginary unity of the new Democratic Party was going to do for them. Congressman Dellum's speech appears in this issue of *KEEP STRONG* along with a statement by Elaine Brown, Chairperson of the Black Panther Party and an official delegate to the convention from Oakland, California. Ms. Brown spoke for hundreds of disillusioned delegates who felt their leaders and featured spokespeople had betrayed them and millions of poor and oppressed people. 0

Statement By Elaine Brown

The following statement was issued by Ms. Brown, Chairperson and leading member of the Black Panther Party, on July 15, 1976. *The statement was issued tn New York City, where Elaine was an official delegate to the Democratic National Convention from California.*

"The Democratic Party has taken a clear turn to the right and has abandoned Black people, the working people and all the oppressed and disenfranchised people of this country. It is time the Black people, the working people and all oppressed and disenfranchised people abandon the Democratic Party. It is time the Black people, the working people and all the oppressed and disenfranchised people build a political party of their own.

"I am ashamed of a number of Black people who are delegates to this Democratic Convention, led by a new breed of Uncle Toms like Andrew Young and Jesse Jackson, who have embraced Jimmy Carter and the theme of this convention.

"At this Convention there are less Blacks and less women than in 1972. There has been no discussion of any of the important issues facing the people of this country. The platform is shaky, mealy-mouthed rhetoric that does not represent anything practical.. The Democratic Party and its leadership have refused to seriously address the real questions of unemployment, the problems of the urban crisis and the most important issue facing the working people, the Blacks, the Native Americans, the Puerto Rican people, the Mexican people, the Latino people, the Asian-American people, women and gays. The program is at its weakest in respect to U.S. relations with foreign countries, echoing Henry Kissinger and the Nixon and Ford administrations. Millions of working people and poor people in this country are misled into believing that the Democratic

Elaine Brown

Party represents their interests. This Convention proves beyond any doubt that, as it is with the Republican Party, money is all that talks. I call for all poor people still in the Democratic Party to leave and begin to work with all the poor and working people of this country to build our own political party."O

Statement By Ron Dellums

"I would first like to thank my esteemed colleagues for giving me this opportunity and thank those of you who provided me with this right to speak to you this afternoon.

"I do not come before you because I seek the

Ron Dellums, progressive-U.S. Con gressman from California.

nomination of the Vice Presidency of the United States, but rather it is my desire to call every resource that is within me to communicate a few ideas that 1 think are important and critical..

"1 believe that the American people on November 2 are prepared to reject the simplistic, absurd politics of the past eight years of the Nixon-Agnew-Rockefeller-Ford era in this country, and they will do it in no uncertain terms.

"But it is very important that you and 1 carry forward the position of our people. Do not be so imbued with the notion of winning that we do not realize that winning must have some purpose; that we must keep committed to some lofty ideals; that we must be committed to righting the wrongs in this country and challenging evil; that we must be willing to achieve a policy of life that is worthy of all of us in this country.

"At what better moment, given the backdrop of the Bicentennial year, as we move into the third century of the country, that we say to the American people that we will open up our processes; that we will have our candidate and our party to go forward between now and November to clearly and Qnequivocally address the critical and vital interests of our time in this country; that we will not have a non-issue oriented campaign; that we will speak to the human misery that is all too real..

"Life is hell for tens of thousands of people in America who cannot find work, who cannot pay their rent and who cannot buy food. It is our responsibility here as we speak of victory to understand that victory comes within the context of democratic process and winning must always speak to the people's victory.

"We must re-energize the notion of Lincoln's great triad - that this is a government of the people, by the people and for the people. As we leave this convention let us reject the notion that has dominated the political scene for the past 10 yea.rs: that is, politics of the few, by the few and for the few; of the money, by the money, for the money; of the powerful, by the powerful and for the powerful.. Let us rededicate ourselves to the notion that this is a government of the people, by the people and for all the people - Black, Brown, Red, Yellow, White, women, young, old, workers, students. This is our land in this country.

"1 can understand that there was an effort made to make a compromise with respect to the participation of people, but given the fact that women are half of the world, half of this country, half of this party, 1 can't understand why it is controversial that women should make up half of the decision-making process in America.

"1 do not seek the Vice Presidency, but if 1 did 1 would say to you in all candor: It is not enough to go from this place committed to peace unless our definition of peace is more than simply the absence of war, but is the presence of justice, love, equity and cooperation. That it is not enough to put five to seven billion dollars on our military budget but that we redirect the priorities of America, that we reshape our role in the world so that we are not committed to the monuments of madness, of war, death and destruction.

"It is time for peace. We can no longer play the role of gunrunner for the world, police officer of the world, most powerful counterinsurgency force of the world. Our world is growing smaller and increasingly interdependent, and we have a responsibility to lead, to be an advocate of peace; to reduce the proliferation of bombs and mayhem; to reject the B-1 bomber; to reject the Strident submarine; to reject all the monuments of death and destruction that have wiped out tens of thousands of our human beings.

"It is not enough for us to go from this place saying that we can leave Vietnam behind us. The balance of our young people still suffer the adversity of a war that was illegal, immoral and insane. Total amnesty for all of our young people!

"It is not enough for us to go from this place and reject colonialism as long as we are not

willing to recognize the need for independence and self-determination of the Puerto Rican people.

"It is not enough to be opposed to colonialism when Walter Fauntroy cannot vote for the residents of the District of Columbia on the floor of the United States Congress.

"We must recognize the peoples of Angola and Mozambique. We must playa role that is vitally important in our history.

"It is not enough to go from this place saying we will sign a full employment bill, but will our candidate and our people go forward in this land developing the necessary support that understands the need for all human beings to be able to have a job, to grow, flourish, prosper and realize his total and fullest potential?

"It is not enough for us to speak of harmony until all our human beings in this country are fully capable of participating.

"I offer this challenge to you, and I offer this challenge to our candidates: that they go forward guaranteeing the full participation of people; that they open up this campaign to a serious debate on the vital and critical issues of our time.

"As we enter the last quarter of the twentieth century, let it not be said that this administration would not guarantee the people that we would develop a new consensus in this country. That is all I'm here to talk about.

"I do not take this podium in antagonism. I take it in advocacy. I do not take this podium in order to engage in divisive rhetoric, but more importantly, to exercise the democratic right to express a point of view that is important. Dr. King once said, 'It is not a question of what is popular, of what is safe and what is expedient. The ultimate question that conscience must always raise is : 'Is it right what we do?'

"I thank all of you, John Conyers, the hundreds of people who signed our petition and you in this room and throughout this country who took a few minutes to hear what is in my spirit as much as in my head, as much in my hope for this country and my hope for the world.

"I take this opportunity now to say that I understand our Presidential nominee has chosen Mr. Mondale, a good and decent person. At this moment I accept the reality of his right to do it, and I thank you. I now withdraw my name from the nomination for the higher office of Vice Presidency of the United States. Thank you."O

A Carter victory in November is a victory for Richard J. Daley of Chicago, Beame of New York, Maier of Milwaukee and Rizzo of Philadelphia, long time enemies of our survival who will bring no relief.

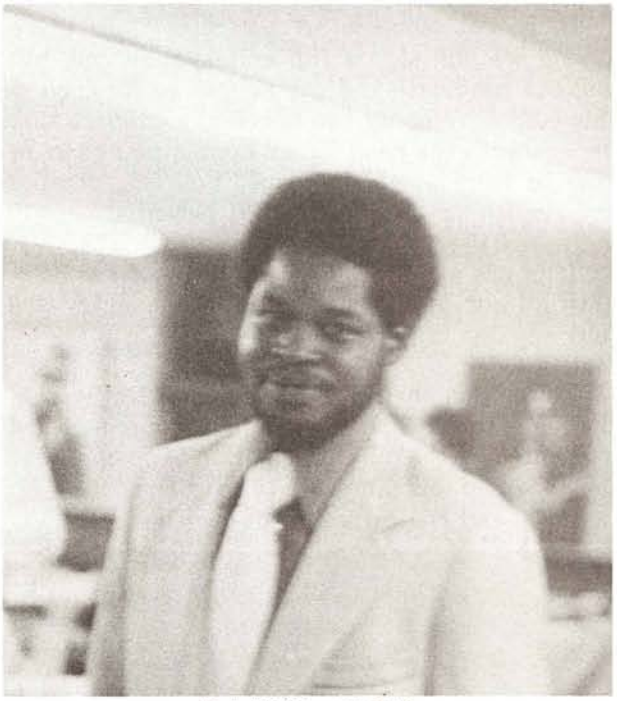
«A Military Operation»

As the $47.7 million civil suit against FBI States Attorney and Chicago police defendant~ on behalf of the families of Fred Hampton and Mark Clark and the survivors of the Dec. 4, 1969 raid continues, plaintiff Harold Bell testified last month. Bell had joined the Black Panther Party shortly after returning from Vietnam where, it came out on the witness stand, he had a nearly perfect military record with numerous awards and meda~s for bravery. As a Party member, Bell was working in Rockford, Illinois and had only been at the state headquarters for a few days when the murderous raid took place.

An effective and knowledgeable witness, Bell explained that the raid had been an attack utilizing surprise and planned confusion to catch the sleeping occupants unaware. His is the first direct testimony in the trial to establish that the raiders issued no warning before entering the apartment shooting from both the back and front doors.

As the firing began and awakened Bell, who was sleeping in the living room, he made his way quickly to the back bedroom of the apartment where Fred Hampton lay asleep. Shots were already coming through the walls, showing that the police made their way directly towards Hampton's bedroom, utilizing the floorplan provided them by FBI agent William O'Neal who had infiltrated the Illinois chapter. Feeling as if he were back in Vietnam, Bell attempted to wake the brilliant and popular 21 year old deputy chairman; "He raised his head up for a few minutes, said nothing, and then put his head back down on the bed."

Bell crouched beside the doorway as officers stood outside and rained automatic fire into the bedroom. Someone put a shotgun to his head and ordered him from the room. He was thrown down on the kitchen floor, kicked and stomped and held motionless with a shotgun still at his head. Lying there, he heard more shots in Fred Hampton's bedroom, and heard them pull his body off the bed and drag it to the doorway of the hall.



Plaintiff Harold Bell

Bell's testimony concerning the sleeping community leader confirms autopsy reports that state Hampton was drugged with seconal, probably by one of the now exposed FBI infiltrators. The testimony also included new examples of agent O'Neal's attempt to provoke the Black Panther Party into senseless, violent actions. "He (O'Neal) argued that the Black Panther Party should become kamikazis, and bomb banks and businesses."

The trial is proceeding with testimony from other survivors of the raid as the jury, obviously impressed by Bell's even, meticulous account of the night of December 4, gets each day a clearer picture of the calculated assassination of one of Chicago's leading young Black spokesmen. Meanwhile, a citizen's committee has been formed to meet with congressmen and senators in Washington in order to seek further congressional investigation of FBI planning and cover-up of the raid. 0

THE BLACK PANTHER

INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE

PUBLISHED \NEEKLY BY THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY

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25¢

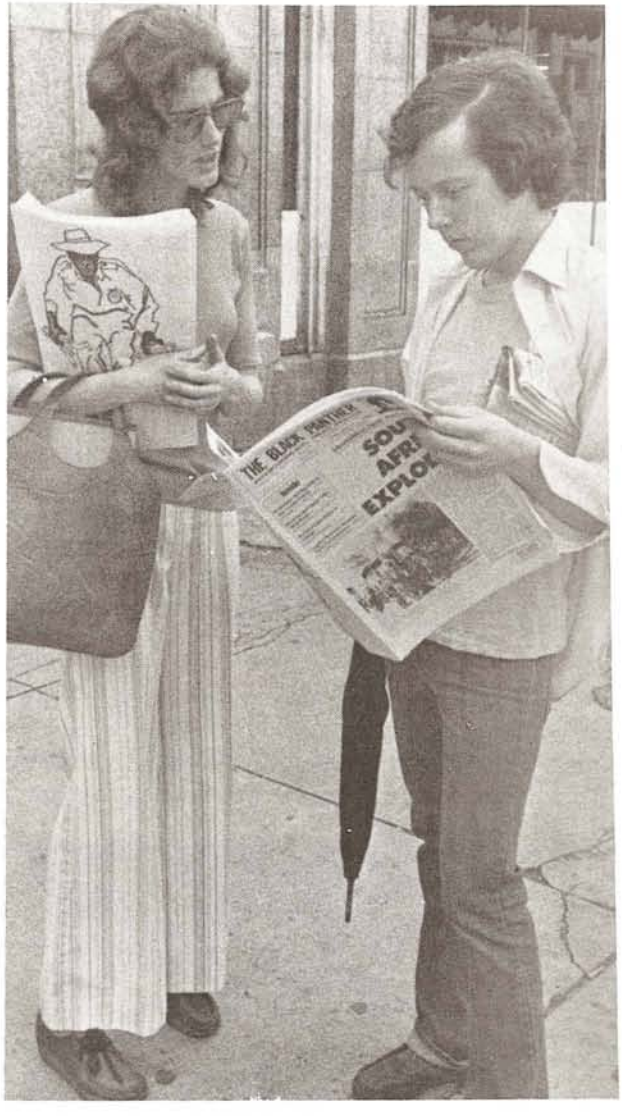
The Intercommunal Survival Committee, publishers of **KEEP STRONG,** have been selling **THE BLACK PANTHER,** primarily to white people, for over 5 years now. Thousands are sold on the street, thousands more are delivered regularly to home subscribers. Articles from **THE BLACK PANTHER** are also frequently reprinted in **KEEP STRONG.** The many regular readers among poor and progressive whites is testimony only to the relevance of this fine weekly paper to all oppressed people.

Of all the many contradictions and confusions that divide poor and oppressed people, racism is probably the most vicious and most destructive to unity and power. So much of the society we live in is shaped by the way it oppresses Black and Third World people, that to understand our own situation as whites, it is necessary also to understand the situation of Black people.

The Intercommunal Survival Committee also believes that the concrete example of the Black Panther Party, the methods of successful struggle, the implementation of many survival programs serving the community, are models from which we can learn in defending ourselves, our families and our own communities from those who would use and abuse us for their own profit..

We strongly encourage you to subscribe to **THE BLACK PANTHER INTERCOMMUNAL NEWS SERVICE.** Education is the first step t~ liberation.

ALL POWER TO THE PEOPLE



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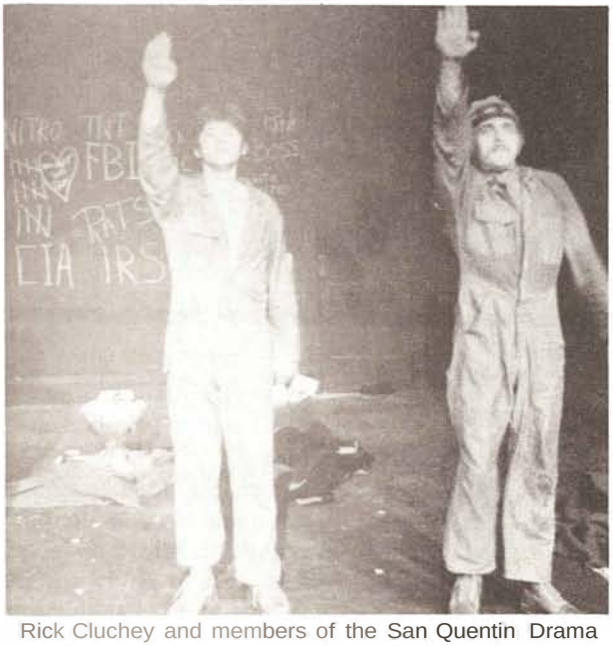
NATIONAL PERSPECTIVE

Milwaukee B.P.P. Busing Program *Benefit Successful*

(Milwaukee, Wise.) Over 250 people attended a very successful benefit performance of *The Cage* sponsored by the Free Busing to Prison Program of the Black Panther Party here on July 11.

The Cage, a renowned play written by Rick Cluchey and performed by the San Quentin Drama Workshop and local resident Clark Hughes, was performed at Century Hall. The play depicts the stark and brutal reality of prison life. The main characters are Hatchet, a clinically psychotic mass murderer; AI, a crippled homosexual; and Jive. Jive is murdered by Hatchet after a mock trial with the audience as the jury. Jive is killed symbolically after his unanswered plea to the audience for help.

Also appearing on the program was the Chicago-based OSB Band, featuring Charles James. The crowd thoroughly enjoyed the band's performance of many popular and soulful rhythm and blues songs.



Rick Cluchey and members of the San Quentin Drama Workshop perform a scene from Cluchey's renowned play "The Cage."

The highlight of the evening was the introduction of the officers and members of the Committee for the Survival of Prisoners, Inc., the community group that administrates the Free Busing Program. Committee officers and members introduced were Shirley Green, president, Sara Roberts, Hazel Byas, Alice Vaughn and Carrie Cross, all of whom are active in the Busing Program. The audience loudly applauded the Committee members in recognition and appreciation of the hard work they did in contributing to the success of the evening's activities and other recent Busing Program benefits.

Among the prominent individuals who took out ads in the program booklet were Ben Johnson, the first Black president of the Milwaukee Common Council; Black state Assemblyman Lloyd Barbee and Wesley Scott.D

San Quentin 6 *Trial Goes* To *The* Jury

(San Rafael,, Calif.) Almost a year since the first witness took the stand (on July 28, 1975), and almost 16 months since the jury selection process began (on March 23, 1975), a group of 11 Whites and one Black were booked into a nearby hotel July 15 to deliberate the fate of the San Quentin 6. It has been the longest criminal proceedings in California history, costing the state nearly $2 million.

The Jury's task - compiled in over 22,000 pages of court transcripts - essentially boils down to this: did the six Black and Brown defendants conspire with Black Panther Party Field Marshal George Jackson in a spectacular bid for freedom, resulting in the prison system's bloodiest afternoon of violence, or did California state officials and others plot the assassination of the famous author/revolutionary, succeeding in their mission but paying a terrible price?

During the proceedings at the heavily secured Marin County Courthouse here, the prosecution, led by assistant D.A. Jerry Herman, worked on a 12-count indictment, the key element being a "gun-in-a wig" tale, the see-through claim that Jackson smuggled a small.9 mm Astra automatic and two clips under an Afro wig back to the Adjustment Center.

The defense, on the other hand, asserts that AC guard Paul Krasnes, later slain, illegally brought the gun into the prison in his back

pocket, pulling it out as Jackson undressed following a visit with lawyer Stephen Bingham.

The defense also charges that George Jackson was not killed as he ran across the AC yard, but was assassinated while he lay on the ground, wounded in the ankle and unable to move.

In brief, the defense for the San Quentin 6 goes like this:

.Johnny Larry Spain, 26, a member of the Black Panther Party, represented by attorney Charles R. Garry. Spain's defense is one of "impaired consciousness," a psychological state similar to being shell-shocked, where persons under extreme stress black out for temporary periods of time. Throughout the trial Garry attacked both racism and the "cesspool-like" conditions in the AC. It was Gary who, in a stunning move, brought forward the critical testimony of star witness Louis Tackwood, a Black ex-agent provocateur who named 18 federal, state and local law enforcement officials involved in the plot to murder George Jackson.

.Hugo Pinell, 31, the only one of the Six to represent himself. Pinell maintained that his life has been threatened by Department of Corrections brutality and mayhem since 1968, and his actions on August 21, 1971, were taken in self-defense.

.Luis Talamentez, 33, represented by attorney Robert Carow. Talamantez' defense asserted that the Mexican-born defendant was not at all involved with the AC events on the 21st. Indeed, the only evidence against Talamentez is that a guard heard - not saw - someone, somewhere say something in Spanish.

.Fleeta Drumgo, 28, represented by attorney Michael Dufficy. Former "Soledad Brother" Drumgo is accused of kicking Krasnes in the head, when the late guard was tied hand and foot in the AC corridor. A picture of Drumgo's shoes in his cell, taken after the incident, discloses the lie.

.Willie Tate, 30, represented by attorney John Hill. Tate's defense centers around the assertion of "mistaken identity," plus the fact that he was still locked in his AC cell at the time he is said to have escorted, bound and gagged several hostage guards.

.David Johnson, 29, represented by public defender Frank Cox. Johnson's defense, similar to Tate's who was in the next cell, holds that he also was still in his cell during the bloodletting. Johnson was the only one of the Six not to present a defense during the trial, relying on Cox's closing arguments to establish his innocense.O

reprinted from The Black Panther

AIM Leader ***Acquitted***

(Cedar Rapids, Iowa) On its fifth day of deliberation, a federal court jury of eight men and four women acquitted two American Indian Movement leaders of killing two FBI agents on the Pine Ridge reservation last summer.

Darelle (Dino) Butler, 34, and Robert Robideau, 29, were accused of killing FBI agents Jack Coler and Ronald Williams. The agents were killed during what was described as a "government attack" upon the South Dakota Oglala Sioux reservation on June 26, 1975.

Throughout the trial defense attorney William Kunstler consistently showed that a climate of fear and intimidation had been created on the reservation by the FBI. Commenting on the subpoening of FBI director Clarence Kelly and Senator Frank Church who headed the recent Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Kunstler said, "What we were trying to establish is that, like the Black Panther Party, AIM was a 'targeted' organization by the FBI for COINTELPRO activities. Among the techniques used against them, again like those used against the Black Panther Party, were those of causing confrontations by spreading untrue information, either concerning informers or the 'dangerous' quality of the targeted organization."

Since the famous 1973 Wounded Knee occupation, there have been over 250 murders of Native Americans on the Pine Ridge Reservation, the majority the result of FBI and Bureau of Indian Affairs repression.

Although the prosecution tried to prove an ambush, conflicting testimony combined with admissions of lying by prosecution witnesses convinced the jury to bring a not guilty verdict. As for one of the prosecution's key witnesses, James Harper, a member of the jury, Robert Bolin said that, "Not one single person beleived one single word fo what he said." Harper had alleged that defendant Butler had told him "the whole story of the shootings." In what appeared to be an instance of prosecution overkill, Harper had also claimed that Butler planned to kill a judge, blow up the hotel where the FBI would stay for the trial and that a mobile home, owned by Actor Marlon Brando, was once used to transport AIM weapons.

Altogether, four Indian activists were charged

with the killings of the two FBI agents. A trial date for the two other defendents, James Eagle and Leonard Peltier. has not been set. Peltier is currently in Canada fighting extradition.O

KEEP STRONG thanks the Black Panther Intercommunal News Ser'Ui£e for information contained in this article.

Chicago FBI Agent Promoted

(Chicago, Ill.) In what is being described as an "obvious continuation" of its illegal political surveillance and counterintelligence programs," the FBI has appointed Richard G. Held as the associate director of the bureau. Held who was formerly in charge of the bureau's Chicago office replaces Nicholas P. Callahan who was fired for "abuses of power" including receiving financial kickbacks.

Held, 65, has been named as a key participant in the FBI's COINTELPRO operation. COINTELPRO was a nationally directed program aimed to "cripple, disrupt and destroy" the Black liberation struggle in this country and particularly the Black Panther Party.

According to the *Chicago Daily News,* in 1969 Held sent an anonymous letter to a Minnesota prosecutor in an apparent attempt to discredit Black students who had been charged with the occupation of a university building. The letter, signed, "A Concerned American" implied that the students had "radical connections" and their lawyer was a member ofthe Communist Party. A jury later acquitted the students involved.

In other related activities, Held has been attacked by the American Indian Movement for his role in the illegal FBI activities resulting from the shooting of two agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation last year. Held was personally in charge of the so-called investigation of the shootings which resulted in numerous instances of homes being illegally broken into and hundreds of people harassed and intimidated.

In Chicago, Held has been involved in the FBI cover-up of the December 4, 1969 raid on a Black Panther Party apartment, resulting in the murder of Party leaders Fred Hampton and Mark Clark. Charging that Held has been responsible "for the concealment of documentary evidence," lawyers for the Hampton and Clark families and survivors of the raid have termed Held's appointment as "ridiculous."

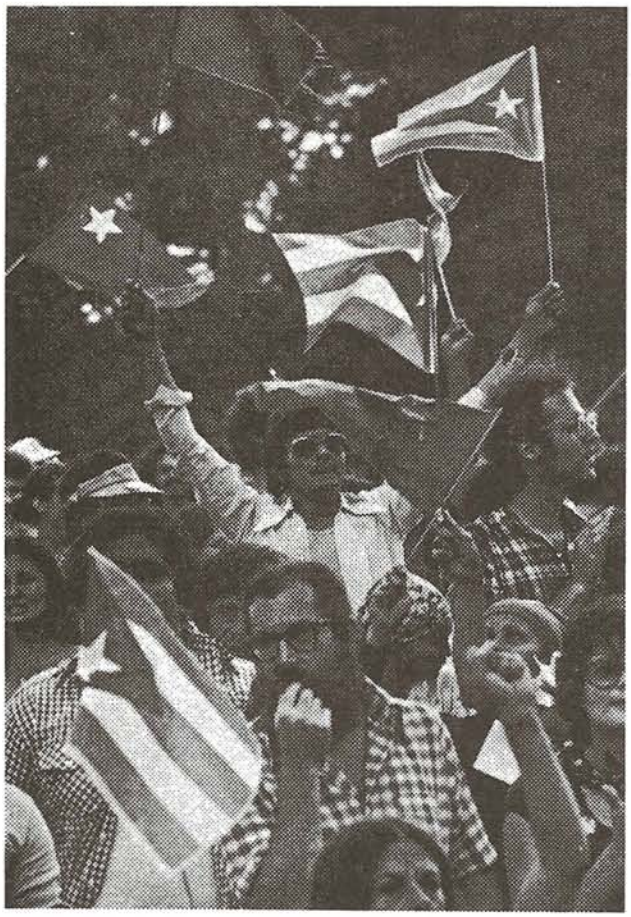
Lawyers pointing further to the fact that although Held was ordered by federal court to turn over all documents pertaining to the raid, he only sent some 6-10% of the records, leaving out some 20,000 - 30,000 pages of documents. He also placed one of the agents charged with conspiracy in the killing of the Panthers in charge of turning over the documents.

In a recent press release prepared by a number of progressive organizations including the American Indian Movement and the December Fourth Committee, Held's appointment was termed a "bicentennial insult to the whole American people who have learned so much in recent times about the dishonesty and criminality of the FBI, and the amazing and outrageous lengths to which it will go to 'neutralize' political groups it disapproves of."O

60,000 Participate In *"People's Bicentennial Celebration"*

(Philadelphia, Pa.) "Viva Puerto Rico Libre!" Was the resounding cheer of the 60,000 people gathered here in Fairmount Park on July 4 for this city's "People's Bicentennial Celebration" after they heard the text of a resolution authored by Black California Congressman Ronald Dellums calling on the U.S. government to "unconditionally and without reservations" transfer all its powers in Puerto Rico to the people of that Caribbean island colony.

The resolution - read to the assembled crowd by Black Panther Party chairperson Elaine Brown, a featured speaker at the July 4th Coalition-sponsored march and rally - was submitted to the House of Representatives on July 1. Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP) Secretary General Juan Mari Bras, one of the keynote speakers *fot* the day, hailed the Dellums' resolutions as an act of solidarity with Puerto Rico. "Nobody could validly oppose the formula presented by Representative Dellums," Mari Bras declared.



"The need for the unity of all poor and oppressed people in the U.S. in order to continue their struggle for human dignity, was the theme of the day."

The torrential rains that poured down over the city toward the end of the People's Bicentennial Celebration" - the largest of four such demonstrations sponsored by the July 4th Coalition across the country - did little to dampen the spirits of the representatives of some 400 political, labor, religious and other groups who came from as far away as Minnesota.

An attempt by the "City of Brotherly Love's" right-wing mayor, Frank Rizzo, to sabotage the event completely failed. Rizzo, who faces a recall election because of the widespread corruption of his administration, had earlier asked President Ford to send 15,000 federal troops to Philadelphia to counter what Rizzo alleged would be a "terrorist" demonstration. Despite the massive number of people on hand, the event was noteworthy for the peacefulness and orderliness of the Black, Puerto Rican, Chicano, Native American and other progressive people and organizations who participated.

In addition to Elaine Brown and Juan Mari Bras, other speakers at the celebration included Clyde Bellecourt of the American Indian Movement (AIM); Dave Dellinger, well known antiwar activist; Rev. Bernard Lee, executive vice-president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC); Arthur Kinoy of the Mass Party Organizing Committee; and Helen Rodriguez of the Committee to End Sterilization Abuse.

The need for the unity of all poor and oppressed people in the U.S. in order to continue their struggle for human dignity, was the common theme of the day. In her pointed remarks to the Fairmount Park crowd, Elaine Brown, a native of Philadelphia, said: "... Today we must mark the beginning of a New American Revolution or face years more of the same and ultimately the total destruction of us all at the hands of madmen, who, in the name of God and Freedom, shall destroy this very planet rather than lose the power they hold, which is rightfully ours. Let us mark this year, this time and this place as the end of the old and beginning of the new .. ."

Juan Mari Bras, who, as secretary general of the PSP, is a leading figure in the Puerto Rican liberation struggle, noted, "We (Puerto Ricans) know that we are not alone in the struggle against colonialism and imperialism, as we are not their only victims. We realize also that the great majority of the peoples of the Untied States are victims of imperialism the same as we are ... "

AIM leader Clyde Bellecourt, welcoming the ralliers to "Indian country," said that 27 AIM activist's are presently incarcerated in the U.S. for their efforts to achieve self-determination for Native American people. "We pledged four years ago when we seized the Bureau of Indian Affairs office in Washington, D.C., that if our demands were not met, we'd return today to blowout the candles on their Bicentennial birthday," Bellecourt told the crowd, which roared its approval..

Meeting on the eve of the Philadelphia celebration, representatives of the progressive groups that make up the July 4th Coalition decided to continue their work and strengthen the unity they have achieved through organizing the various "People's Bicentennial Celebrations." Participants in the meeting wrote a document highlighting the history of struggle of the people of America and the need to unite in order to organize a "counter-offensive against the attacks which the government has perpetrated against the people." D

reprinted from The Black Panther

INTERCOMMUNAL PERSPECTIVE

Ron Dellums **Submits Resolution To End U.S. Colonial Rule In *Puerto Rico***

The foUowing is the text of the resolution submitted to the House of Representatives on July 1 by progressive Bay Area Congressman Ronald DeUums caUing on the U.S. to end its colonial rule in Puerto Rico and supporting the just right of the Puerto Rican people to self-de termination.

"Whereas the people of the United States in the Declaration of Independence of 1776 made a commitment to the principles that colonial people have the inalienable right to self-determination and the right to assume their place as free and independent states among the nations of the world, and whereas the Constitution of the United States mandates that the status of inferiority for any peoples presently under the control of the United States be forthwith abolished:

"Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that all powers and authorities presently exercised by the three branches of government of the United States, Legislative, Judicial and Executive, and all the agencies and instrumentalities, including the armed forces of the United States, over the territory of Puerto Rico, in order to allow them to fully exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and independence, in accordance with their freely expressed will and desire.

"In order to implement the purposes of this resolution, the Congress urges the people of Puerto Rico to freely convene a constituent assembly with proportional representation for all the people of Puerto Rico in order to organize the body politic of the Puerto Rican people and fully exercise their inalienable right to determine their own future."O

reprintedfrom The Black Panther

Resistance* In *Mexico

CASA (Centro de Accion Social Autonomia de Hermanidad General de Trabajadores) organizes and defends the rights of undocumented workers as weU as the overaU problems of the total Mexican population resident in the United States. From July 19 to 25, 1976 they went to Mexico to participate in a week of solidarity with the Mexican workers. People from CASA as weU as independent scholars from around the U.S. participated in the trip. FoUowing is an enlightening interview with Arturo Vasquez of the Latin American Studies Program at th~ University of IUinois and a member of the CASA delegation that went to Mexico.

"One of the major sponsors of this week of solidarity was the democratic tendency within the *SUTERM,* the electrical workers union which is allied with the whole trade union movement in Mexico. On July 16 the *SUTERM* went out on strike all over the country. At 4 a.m. on July 16 the federal government sent in troops to occupy all the work sites. Along with the federal troops they sent in many scabs to take over the plants and armed thugs who are called *porros* in Mexico. These are the strikebreakers. With clubs, chains, shotguns and other arms these people go around shooting down people who the government is against.

Arturo Vasquez

On July 16 the SUTERM went out on strike all over Mexico.

"So, of course, the independent trade union movements they were allied with had to respond, and those were the people who had sponsored our week of solidarity. When we arrived in Mexico, the week of solidarity had to be cancelled. All the meetings were thrown up for grabs. The leaders of the independent trade groups and some of the people from the *colonias* (an area of the city made up of several neighborhoods called *campamentos)* who formed the united front, had decided to organize a demonstration in Mexico City. They decided to have it on Thursday in the evening, starting at 4 p.m. and to proceed throughout the rest of the evening.

"So, from Monday through Thursday we found ourselves running after all the organizers of the demonstration; speaking at student meetings, union meetings, meetings all over the city where the masses of people were gathered. After the *SUTERM* people would present their talks there would be discussion of the issues around the strike and the need for solidarity, then those of us from C.A.S.A. who'd been working with Mexicans on this side of the border would get up and reaffirm our solidarity with the struggle.

"There is a huge amount of unemployment in Mexico. By the government's own admission (new figures come out everyday in the newspapers) there is at least 70% sub-employment in Mexico of all the workers who are employed. The government only admits to 5% unemployment in the cities. But, according to people from the independent trade union movement, there exists an unemployment rate of close to 40% in the cities. According to a report put out by the Mexican equivalent of the National Association of Manufacturers, in the next six years seven out of ten workers in Mexico will be unable to find jobs. And these are optimistic figures.

"One of the places we went to visit, that had been part of the group that sponsored our trip

"In the next six years seven out of ten workers In Mexico will be unable to find jobs."

and was part of the mobilization for the demonstration, was a place called *"La Cowni.a Dos de Octubre." Dos de Octubre* refers to the occurrences that took place on October 2, 1968 when 400 Mexicans were slaughtered in Mexico City protesting the Olympics. So Dos de Octubre was given that name in solidarity with the fallen comrades, with the workers, students and *campesinos* who had been slaughtered.

"Campes'Lnos were moved off the land in various regions within the central valley of Mexico where land has been taken over by large mechanized farms, North American companies and other foreign companies moving in, establishing factories and transforming the *campesino* into a worker. These people have come off the land then, and have moved into the capital looking for work because after being taken off the land there's been insufficient work in the countryside. Because the housing situation in Mexico is so critical there just wasn't any place for them to find living quarters.

"So, in 1959, masses of *campesinos* began moving into this region called *Ixtacalco* and occupied the lands; the land is just that - land. There's no development in there, there's no sewage, there's no streets, there's no running water, nothing like that. Or at least there wasn't anything like that at the time they arrived, and there's very little there even today. The houses that they built were made of anything they could get their hands on - tin, old cardboard boxes, wood. They just began creating shelters for themselves and trying to create a living situation for themselves in that area.

"After three years of struggle, they began organizing and putting together a form of social organization. According to conversations we had with them, in 1962 the government promised them they would be able to get possession of those lands; that they in fact had a right to those lands. Based on that, they then began to construct a little more firmly the housing that they had. They began to organize themselves much more seriously, and within a short two years after that the attacks on the *campes'Lnos* began. When people began to settle in *Ixtacalco,* the city had not quite gotten out to that region, although it was growing in that direction. T.oe land was not yet viewed as profitable. But with the expansion of the city - and Mexico City h~s some 15 million inhabitants right now, that became a place that the developers began to see as being very valuable land. And today all around *Dos de Octubre* you can see middle class and upper middle class housing. So the *campamento* is almost totally isolated by these other developments that are for the petty bourgeois in Mexico City. The *campamento* itself continues to be dirt, a dirt land with housing that the people have built very arduously in trying to create a situation for themselves.

"As the land began to be valuable the attacks on the part of the government began. There were originally some 39,000 families in that area. Today there are maybe 3,700 families. The way this has been done is that the government has moved in and has completely surrounded the area with *granaderos* (these are armed soldiers). They have gone in and burned houses. The first attacks were merely to scare the people and

move them off the land. Then there was a series of attacks that had as their intent just rounding up people and moving them off. Bulldozers would come behind and knock down all the houses. Thousands of families were moved out of the area that way.

"In one attack that was described to us by the leaders of the *campamento,* the government came running in with *granaderas.* They would bring in Red Cross ambulances. The doors would open up. Out would come these people who were armed. They were civilians, but armed thugs, who would then go about systematically beating up people and burning down housing. Various people that lived in the *campamento* were never seen again. They were just sequestered.

"They also described how they had worked very hard to build their own school building that is completely run by the people. The government had not given them any kind of resources to build a school or to have teachers or anything. So they managed go build a school building. They managed to get students from the university and other people to volunteer their time to be teachers. In one confrontation the *granaderos* came in again, and the colonel who was in charge of them ordered a bulldozer to knock down the building. The teachers refused to allow that to happen, so they stayed inside the building with the children. The colonel ordered them to give the building a shake. The bulldozer hit the building, and the teachers felt then that they had to take the kids out. Whereupon the mothers in the *campamento* immediately attacked the colonel and were on the point of really doing him in when the *granaderos* attacked the mothers, and there was a wholesale battle with the *granaderos* and the women. One of the women was killed; others were beaten very severely; others were arrested and taken off. There had been that kind of provocation, that kind of attempt ~o destroy the *campamento.*

"And then in March of last year the government again attempted to destroy the *campamento.* First of all they attempted to kill the leader Francisco Cruz. He had to go underground because of the attempt on his life. They thought that they had singled out his house, so they sent the *porros* in after him. He managed to jump out a back window and take off, but a young man in the building who didn't know what was going on, ran out, and he was cut down by machine gun fire. That same night they set fire to 3,000 (practically all) the houses in the *campamento.* But the people stayed and with hardly more than the clothes on their backs, they

Francisco Cruz, leader of "Dos de Octubre," was forced to go underground.

began to rebuild again. Today they've reconstructed all the houses, and they're still there.

"The other thing that's amazing about it is that within the *campamento* they have a central committee that's organized. These are former *campesinos,* who just had to learn in order to combat and to continue the struggle. But as I said they have organized a central committee. They have commissions for just about every aspect of their life, and it's all done collectively. At this point they're digging ditches to put in a sewage system. They've run in various water lines; they've run in electricity; they have a collective kitchen, and they've developed support groups all over the city.

"The last thing I wanted to point out in terms of all of this is that there are 13 *colonias* that have moved to that point of political development. It is important to understand that while these people are *campesinos,* they have study groups in the *Dos de Octubre,* and they're just moving ahead. They're uniting with the workers as they came out in support of the democratic tendency. In their strike, they've joined the united front with the tendency with student groups and with people from the *campos* (country), so they are moving very rapidly to become part of the whole social struggle in Mexico." O

ENTERTAINMENT

BOOK REVIEW

Ron Kovic

«Born On The fourlh Of July»

They wheeled Ron Kovic up to the podium of the Democratic Convention to address the hall filled with delegates from every state in the United States. It had been a convention tightly shaped and tailored to eliminate memories of war, racism, unemployment, hunger and poverty. A striking show of unity and patriotic comfort, good times and high spirits had in fact been manufactured for millions in the television audience. Then came Ron Kovic, and the rich and powerful wished he would simply go away and leave them alone.

Ron Kovic, born on the fourth of July in 1946, at the beginning of this country's post-war rise to the most powerful country in the world, the center of a new world empire, might well have fit into the convention. In a passage from his new book, entitled, *Born On The Fourth Of July,* he writes the following; "There was a song called *Runaway* by a guy named Del Shannon playing one Saturday at the baseball field. I remember it was a beautiful spring day and we were young back then and really alive and the air smelled fresh. This song was playing and I really got into it and was hitting baseballs and feeling like I could live forever. *It was all sort of easy. It had all come and gone."* Ron Kovic could have fit in well at the charade of patriotic cheering which was so much like a baseball game, but he didn't. Instead they just wished he would go away.

continued on next page

To The Parents

People of this nation wake up. The old ways have slowly but surely disappeared. You cannot expect your kids to walk in your foot steps. Our kids have to struggle to survive. Don't teach them to hide behind closed doors. Teach them to unite and be strong. Educate their minds to look beyond the horizon and help them to know how to struggle to make a better future where there will be more unity and power for all people to survive because if we don't turn things around we are going to crash into an eve of destruction. So come let's keep strong and keep up the minds of our children so they can carryon where we leave off for we are like old battle ships. We are slowly sinking but our children must be like life boats that will float and survive to build a future on the foundation strong and solid which we have laid for them for they are young and have strong wills to struggle and survive.

Power to our children. The future is theirs.

Judy Branham

Ex-marine Ron Kovic spoke from his wheelchair, demanding amnesty for all those who had deserted or refused to go to Vietnam. That was why he came. He came to remind America that there was a war in Vietnam and that this country sent millions of men to destroy a country fighting for its freedom - and to die.

In *Born On The Fourth Of July* Kovic explains that he joined the marines to fight for his country. He went to Vietnam because he wanted to fight communism, because he believed he was defending his own country by doing so. It was all part of winning and being a winner. "All his life he'd wanted to be a winner. It was always so important to win, to be the very best. He thought back to high school and the wrestling team and to Lee Place and Hamilton Avenue, when he and the rest of the boys had played stickball or football. He thought back to that and remembered how hard he tried to win even in those simple games."

And that was why he was fighting for America: because he had been told it was the best. It was the winner. But in Vietnam it was impossible to be a winner.

In the Nam, how could he explain the fact that he had shot one of his own men when the man started to run back in retreat? How could he explain killing hundreds of small Vietnamese boys and girls? How could he explain wanting to die? How could he explain losing the use of his body for the rest of his life in order to fight in a war he really knew nothing about?

Paralyzed, he returned to this country to try and understand. He studied the war. He learned the U.S. had fought this war to protect its own business interests against a people united in the struggle for their own self-determination. He changed. He became an important spokesperson in the movement against the war and in the movement to gain amnesty for those he had condemned as cowards, communists, and losers, before he went to Vietnam.

The book this brother has written is a nearly complete description of the hell and confusion that took place in Vietnam. It describes someone coming to the end of a process into which he was propelled by the madness that drives us to ignore the realities of oppression in this country and see only the lies, the boasting and the arrogance~ At the end of the process there was confusion, the living death of paralysis and a commitment to live with the truth. Ron Kovic has stepped off the train of lies the Democratic Convention was supposed to put the rest of us on again.

They couldn't condemn him. They couldn't throw him off stage. The rich and powerful had created him. In his words, "I was born on the fourth of July. I am your yankee doodle dandee, I am your Johnny come marching home again." They just wished he would go away - he and the millions like him. 0

Puerto Rico In Humboldt Park

Puerto Rico
in the mist of the night
at Humboldt Park
beating congas ~ bongos
the rhythmatic clanging
of the "cowbell"
"el guaguanco" it's called
reminds us
of the beauty
in the people
youth gather round
moving to the beat
night sounds
blend into it
as if a whole "orquesta"
were playing
Rican brothers
& sisters
together,
together
forgetting their
difference of opinion
together
they were brought
by the instrument
of their heritage
remembering
their homeland,
of "la bandera"
they sing

Words not known
but felt
la isla Borinquen
they miss
even tho some
never saw
nor felt her
und~r their feet
"Bella isla te canto!"
for hours
together
in their
"isla de Borinquen"
the music stops
as men in blue
approach the crowd
the trance is broken
they were "there"
at least
for awhile
the people go
their separate ways
cursing the uniformed men
for bringing
them back
remembering
their difference of opinion
& yet -- remembering
the Island ...
so far away

Adela Cerda — 3-8-76

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CORRECTION

KEEP STRONG apoligizes for ,a lack of clarity in the June, 1976 issue of KEEP STRONG, pages 12 and 13. Specifically, Erik Rasmussen is a voluntary unpaid member of organizations in the Lakeview area who when reached for comment by KEEP STRONG said that the police actions "didn't get to the root of it" (the drug problem), but that "all we're concerned about is the appearance of the results. We can't tell the police what to do. They're getting paid to get results."

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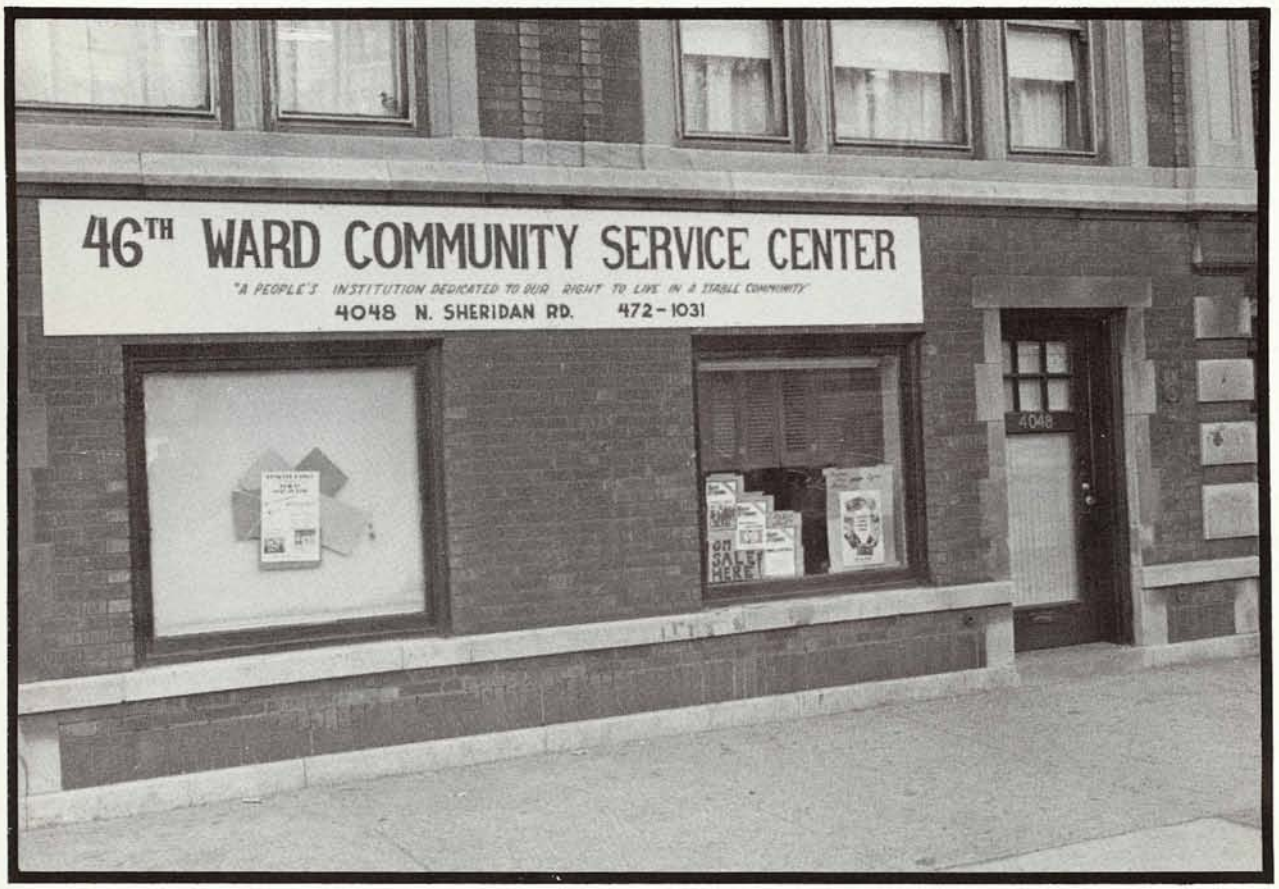
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Welfare Clinic: Tuesdays
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

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Tuesdays
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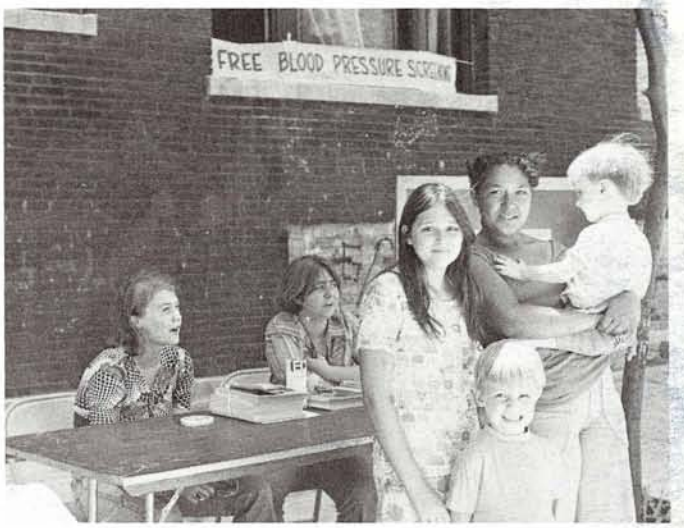

Successful Survival Day Celebration Held July 24 In Uptown, Chicago